

THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 1995

IN SECTION TWO

MESSAGE TO ME NOWARD Seven ideas you will to be to thought of to make the arms are

STARTING THIS SUNDAY THE ECTIS ELSE Details in the Independent Sanday this weekend



Portillo hit by Brussels broadside

Speech 'grotesque' says Santer

DONALD MACINTYRE nd COLIN BROWN

The European Commission yesterday launched a strong and unprecedented counter-attack on Michael Portillo the Secretary of State for Defence, following his nationalistic diatribe against Brussels on Tuesday.

Echoing dismay among some ministers, pro-Europeans and even some Euro-sceptics in the Conservative Party, the President of the European Commission, Jacques Santer, was officially said in Brussels to have regarded the barrage of anti-European sentiment expressed in Blackpool as "deplorable" and "grotesque."

Some ministers privately described as "naked" and "crude" Mr Portilla's speech to the Blackpool conference - cleared by the Prime Minister - in which he promised to resist a "single European army" and aligned British Conservatism with the SAS motto: "Who dares, wins". One senior minister is understood to have protested to Mr Major about the terms with which Mr Portillo mocked the European

A spokesman for Mr Santer did not name Mr Portillo but said the Commission President found it "deplorable" that politicians were creating straw men to knock them down publicly. "Mr Santer thinks it is grotesque to have recourse to this kind of behaviour for rea-

DONALD MACINTYRE and NICHOLAS TIMMINS

Michael Howard, the Home

Secretary, will today announce

a new sentencing drive against

persistent burglars as part of a

law-and-order package he will

unveil in the wake of a series of

populist policy initiatives on

education, health, social secu-

sons of maintaining a high pro-file in politics and the media," a Commission spokesman, Joao Vale de Almeida, said. Commission officials pointed out there is little chance a pan-European army will result from deliberations on closer Euro-

pean defence co-operation. Conservative Members of the European Parliament were appalled at the impact the speech would have on Britain's relations with the EU. One minister suggested that it was "just not done" to involve British armed forces in a party political speech. "The SAS will

just hate it," he said. Lord Howe, the former foreign secretary,said: "I think it is very disturbing to find someone, holding the position he does, exploiting so faultlessly the easy anti-European applause line, casting Brussels as an ogre."

Inside

The lobbyist who staned in yesterday's

Andrew Marr.

Howard's anti-theft drive

Mr Howard's new regime

would mean more burglars with

multiple convictions being tried in Crown Courts which can im-

pose a maximum sentence of 14

years. He recently told the Po-

lice Superintendents' Association

he had been surprised by re-

search suggesting that magis-trates sent only 10 per cent of

burglars to prison on a first con-

viction and for those with 10 or

Mr Lilley's announcement

came after a barnstorming raising school standards.

Portillo's speech threatened to undermine efforts by Mr Major and Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, to reunite the party by striking a more Eurosceptic note in declarations on a single currency. Lord Plumb, leader of the

The unrest caused by Mr

Conservatives in the European Parliament, said: "I would not expect a minister of the Crown to be saying some of the things he said in respect of Brussels or in respect of Europe." Pro-Europeans were dis-

turbed to discover that Mr Major had approved Mr Portillo's

Earlier Michael Heseltine denied suggestions that he rebuked Mr Portillo in his own platform speech yesterday. Mr Heseltine said: "You can call yourself a Communist, a Socialist, a Liberal or a Conservative. You can wrap yourself in any flag of any colour and you can mouth whatever patriotic rhetoric the PR merchants can devise ... But unless you hammer home the message that our companies must give the customers what they want at a qua ity they need at a price they are is graved to pay, then politicians are guilty of a great deceit, a gi-ant fraud, the ultimate betrayal of Britain."

The Deputy Prime Minister later said that the reference to people wrapping themselves in the national flag was related to "phoney sentiments of

speech by Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, which

was the highlight of the confer-

ence's second day. He excoriat-

ed the "nauseating hypocrisy" of

Labour's education policy, pro-

jected the Tories as the party to

modernise Britain and transform

its inner cities, and overshad-

owed a rare defeat for the par-



Footballer jailed for foul play

RICHARD BRENNAN

Durican Ferguson, the contro-versial Scotland international footballer, yesterday began a three-month jail sentence after losing his appeal against sentence for buitting a rival player.

He is the first British international player to be jailed for assaulting a fellow professional on the field of play. The 23-year-old, who now

plays in England for Everton, was told that incidents of violence in sport could not be ignored by the courts. He also has two previous convictions for assault, one for breach of the peace and one for drink-driving.

Ferguson was appearing before the Supreme Court in Edinburgh to appeal against the sentence, but not the conviction, that had been imposed by a sheriff earlier this year.

Despite pleas from Everton, and his former employer. Rangers, Lord Hope, the Lord Justice General of Scotland, said the original three-month term

view that we would not be tion for beadteachers aimed at justified in interfering with this



The Crunch: Ferguson butting John McStay last year

Ferguson was on probation at the time of the incident in a Scottish Premiership match at Ibrox Park, the home of Glasgow Rangers, in April last year. He butted opposing full-back John McStay of Raith Rovers, leaving him with a cut lip.

Ferguson was neither sent off nor cautioned for the assault by video recording of the assault.

John Mitchell, QC, for the defence, said his client realised his actions had been wrong

and now "bitterly regretted the

Outside the court Ferguson's solicitor, Blair Morgan, said: There is no further appeal. I spoke to Duncan afterwards. He did not say very much. He had expected the worst and I think that was good preparation."

As Ferguson was taken away by prison van to Glasgow's Barnie jail, his club said he was the victim of a "witch-hunt". Everton manager Joe Royle attacked the decision as "incredible", adding: "We are all amazed and stunned and can't really believe, in a society that seems dedicated to keeping people out of prison, that we are putting away a young man who is in a good job and is no dan-

ger to society." Everton would give him its "fullest support" and Ferguson would remain a hero to the Merseyside club, the manager said. "Anyone who knows him will tell you he is a very pleasant young man. He is no bad lad at all. He has been guilty sometimes of stupidity, but mostly immaturity. We all see events on football pitches every week and they are a lot worse than what Duncan now finds himself imnals for," added Royle.

the law came in February 1991 when he was fined for butting a police officer. A second assault followed two years later when the player was involved in an incident in Edinburgh, striking a man who was on crutches. That also resulted in a fine but

assauit charge. It was in April of this year that Ferguson was convicted for the latest incident. Sentence was then adjourned to allow reports to be compiled before he was given a three-month jail

less than a year later he was

again before the sheriff on an

Grobbelaar in court, page 3

Bosnia truce is finally sealed

EMMA DALY Sarajevo

The delay, caused by arguments over the restoration of gas and electricity supplies to Sarajevo, allowed - coincidentally or not - Bosnian government forces to seize two important towns from the rebel

Antonio Pedauye, the UN chief in Bosnia, said last night that all sides had agreed to a 60day ceasefire, which will allow further negotiations on the outline peace settlement brokered by the US special envoy, Richard Holbrooke.

But though the guns may cease firing, the suffering of civilians - Serb and Muslim will continue. Some 40,000 Serb refugees were moving east last night towards the Serb stronghold of Banja Luka from the newly fallen towns of Sanski Most and Mrkonjic Grad. At the same time, thousands of the the remaining Muslim residents of Serb-held northern Bosnia had been forcibly expelled across the front lines by Serb paramilitaries.

"Their police were throwing us out of our flats while Serb newcomers were waiting in front of them to occupy them as soon as we left," Mensur Budimlic, a Muslim from Pri-jedor, north of Sanski Most, said after arriving in the governmentheld city of Zenica.

Bosnian officials had delayed the truce twice, first because gas supplies had not yet reached Sarajevo, then because electricity levels were deemed too low. The ceasefire was dependent on the full restoration of utilities to the city.

The UN now has the unenviable task of implementing the truce, which is to last for two months or until there is a conclusion to the peace talks. UN officials speak only of "monitoring and facilitating" the ceasefire, rather than enforcing it. Pcace-keepers will also escort civilian convoys to and from the besieged eastern enclave of Gorazde.

ty leadership on council capping. Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Emrity and housing. Peter Lilley won loud apmore convictions the average sentence was only four months. ployment, won the second could not be ruled "excessive". the match referee. However, the plause yesterday when he an-Sitting with two other judges he called it a "tragic case", but added: "We have reached the longest ovation of the day with Mr Howard may also fore-Scottish Football Association nounced cuts in social security a speech in which she announced took action after viewing a shadow the greater use of video benefits for asylum seekers, a campaign to improve the use of English and a new qualificasurveillance in public places to aimed at saving £200m and reducing the growing numbers of would be immigrants applying for asylum in the United Kingdom.



Universities lead the way

Students receive a much higher

standard of teaching in traditional

universities than they do in the for-

mer polytechnics, according to a

report leaked to the Independent.

Eight out of ten departments grad-

ed "excellent" were in old universi-

ties, while only two out of ten were

in former polytechnics.

Big Ben will chime on time next Monday, as ITV yesterday admitted defeat in the battle to reschedule its flagship News at

Following criticism from the Independent Television Commission, first reported in the Independent on Monday, the extended opening episode of the hit series Cracker will now be

IN BRIEF

Stockpile of death

Iraq is certain to face in-

definite United Nations

sanctions after a devastat-

ing report yesterday re-

vealed that it may still be

holding enough biological

weapons to wipe out the

world's population several

Norweb became the latest regional

electricity firm to succomb to a

takeover bid after a renewed £1.8bu

offer from North West Water. The water group's offensive was criticised by analysts as "overpriced". Page 23

North West buys Norweb

times over.

Page 7

admits defeat in the battle over '(broadcast on 22 October, a Sunday, and News at Ten will run

as usual next week. A repeat of the "cliff-hang-er" episode from the last run of Cracker will be broadcast next

ITV insiders admitted that the decision was an "embar-rassing" climbdown, but insisted there had been no attempt to set a precedent regarding the were incensed that no prior bulletin's time slot.

Witness breaks down

Crown Court yesterday, saying

that she blamed herself for the

Wests' home in Gloucester

Tenors' bank notes

The three tenors - Pavarot-

ti, Domingo and Carreras

- have announced a con-

cert at Wembley Stadium

with ticket costing up to £350. Page 9

"This had nothing to do with the scheduling of the news," ITV said.

The ITC had sharply criticised the rescheduling, saying it breached ITV licence terms under which 30 minutes of weekday news must be broadcast during the peak viewing times of 6pm to 10:30pm. in addition, ITC officials

approval for the change had

been sought. "Everybody thought everybody else had told the ITC," an ITV insider

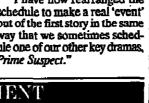
ITV Network Centre considered a 15-minute cut in the opening episode, which includes a graphic rape scene, to accommodate the news. In the end, a shift to a Sunday premiere, followed by hour-long episodes on 23 October and 30 October, meant the programme Prime Suspect."

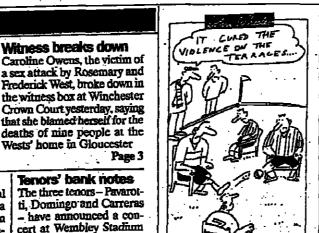
could go out unchanged.
"When problems arose over the scheduling of Cracker, my first concern was to make sure that our viewers did not miss

out," Marcus Platin, head of

"I have now rearranged the schedule to make a real 'event' out of the first story in the same way that we sometimes schedule one of our other key dramas.

Network Centre, said.





COMMENT

John Walsh's Diary: Taking a visit to Mick Page 19 Jagger's Ladies' Room. Hamish McRae: Are banks going the same way as British manufacturing industry? Page 21 Another View: A poet's warning on National Poetry Day. Page 20 News Analysis: So just what makes a good headteacher? Page 19

Leading article: "Those giving out information on fertility treatment have a great responsibility to get their facts and figures right." Weather: Northern England will be cloudy with rain and drizzle. Elsewhere it will start misty but become brighter and

Section Two, page 29



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Arms cuts opponent is military lobbyist



Marc François: opponent of defence cuts

debate at the Conservative conference, who made an impassioned plea for no cuts in military spending, is a lobbyist for a company bidding for defence orders totalling almost

Mark François was introduced as the prospective parliamentary candidate for Brent East, Ken Livingstone's seat. He is a director of Market Access International, a Westminsterbased consultancy which acts for numerous defence contractors. One of Market Access's

biggest clients is Northern Telecom, the giant Canadian telecommunications company, which is pitching for two MoD orders: the £2bn Defence Fixed Telecommunications System, known as DFTS, and the £1.8bn Bowman army field radio net-

Market Access has strong Tory connections. David Boddy, its chairman, is a former director of communications at Tory Central Office. Steve Bramall, a former private secretary

Conservative speaker who argued against reducing defence spending has links with industry. Chris Blackhurst reports

is a close friend of David Amess, the Tory MP for Basildon who is Mr Portillo's Parliamentary Private Secretary. Executives from Northern

Telecom, who had travelled to Blackpool to lobby for the orders, said they hoped to be on the two-strong shortlist for DFTS, to be announced shortly. DFTS is a telecommunications system serving all the armed forces and the Ministry of Defence. The current con-tract is held by British Telecom. Bowman is intended to be the replacement for Clansman, the army's long-standing front-line

The Bowman contract will involve supplying least 60,000 radio handsets and battery packs. In his speech, Mr François be-gan by reminding the audience

to Michael Portillo when he was
Transport Secretary, is a director of the firm and Mr François
Minister sitting behind him, he
moving experition of the firm and Mr François
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Mr Portillo and the Prime

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Minister sitting behind him, he
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Mr Portillo and the Prime

Mr Portillo and the of State for Defence was when continued: "There is always a I attended the march-past of danger when governments are veterans who fought against under financial pressure they are tempted to find savings Northern Telecom yesterday from the defence budget. It is

always a temptation they should Twice this century, declared Mr François, Britain had allowed its military machine to run down, to the point that when war was declared it was not able to offer an immediate riposte. We must make sure. he said, "we never, ever, ever, make that mistake again." He sat down to thunderous ap-

Replying to the debate, Mr Portillo singled out the contri-bution by Mr François, saying he would have understood how Mr Portillo would have felt when viewing veterans in the VJ Day celebrations. "As Mark

hosted a packed fringe meeting on the information superhighway, chaired by Danny Finkel-stein, head of research at Tory Central Office. With executives from Northern Telecom and Market Access in attendance, Ian Taylor, the Telecommunications Minister, congratplated the company for investing in Britain and creating jobs. They are "really welcome", Mr

Northern Telecom is one of four bidders for the DFTS contract, along with British Tele-com, Racal and GEC-Plessey. Martin Roberts, the company's project director, said he hoped to be present when the

shortlist is announced, possibly as soon as Friday. The winner of the £2bn order is expected to be declared next April.

cess was working on the order because, "the next stage is political and down to the Cabinet". Asked if Northern Telecom would be meeting Mr Portillo while in Blackpool, Mr Roberts replied: "I would not be up here otherwise, would I? We hope to talk to him."

DFTS, said Mr Roberts, is "worth £2bn. It is a major con-tract that will run for 10 years". He added: "We have put a very good bid on the table." He confirmed that Mr François was working for Market Access.

Mr Amess said he knew Mr Francois "extremely well." The two had met in Basildon, where Mr François was a councillor.
Last night Mr Portillo told the
Independent that he did not

Killer on

run after

prison

van is

hijacked

A convicted murderer was on

the run in Newcastle upon Tyne

last night after gunmen held up

a prison van taking him to hos-

pital. Two other men, described

by police as "dangerous" were

being hunted after they walked

away from a prison in North

pains yesterday to try to min-

imise the embarrassment to

the Home Secretary of two

prison escapes in a day. Michael

Howard takes key position on

the platform today at the Con-

servative Party conference in

Blackpool as delegates debate

In the first escape, Alan

Byrne was being transported

from Frankland Prison, Coun-

ty Durham, where he was serv-

ing a life sentence for murder

A category A immate, sen-

Crown Court, he was being

taken for treatment at a cancer

centre in Newcastle General

Hospital yesterday when the

armed men struck. Shots were

fired in the air but no one was

hurt. Byrne and the two gunmer

ran off to a waiting vehicle in

A spokesman for Northum-

bria Police said yesterday: "This

was clearly well-planned by the

Little detail had emerged by

last night on the Humberside

jailbreak, which a Home Office

spokesman refused to call an es-

cape. "This is an abscond. To es-

lice were checking their home

addresses last night.

A Humberside Police spokesman said: "There is no

suggestion that either of these

men have used firearms, but one

has come to notice for using vi-

olence. If a member of the public approached them, they

could be violent.

physical barrier,

spokesman said.

the hospital car park.

gunmen.

and possession of a firearm.

The Home Office was at

Humberside.

law and order.

know Mr François. "I don't know him at all. I am sorry, I cannot belp you. Thank you".

The Independent was unable The *independent* was to contact Mr François.

Mr Roberts said Market Ac-

ous professional misconduct.

The General Medical Council's professional misconduct committee had been told that Alan Mathains 42; and Gepffrey Shackle, 56, had ailed to act on the obvious tell-tale signs that Kathy Setford, aged 38, and suffered a breach in the memberness around the fooths. It was fered a breach in the mem-branes around the focus it was claimed the decision not to arrange ferale and his safety and take of the children Her daughter. Limits after his Set-ford was inally admitted.

The GPs, both from East Sus-ses, bed decised serious

misconduct case Two doctors accused of endangering the lives of a pregnant woman and her unborn child

were yesterday cleared of seri-

ous professional misconduct.

sex, had demod denied serious professional miscocing and claimed they will guilty duly of an isolated error of clinical

Toddlers die in fire

A mother and her two young daughters died when they were trapped in their blazing home. Firefighters later found the bodies of Diane Jones, 22, and her daughters Shona, aged two, and one-year-old Sarah Jane, in a bedroom at their home on the the Gurnos estate in Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan.

Price of slander

Albert Miller, general secretary of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain, was awarded £40 damages for slander by a High Court jury over an alle-gation that he had defrauded members of up to £90,000. Mr Miller, from Heston, west Lon-don, had sued Terry Osborne, an amusement rides operator, over a comment he made in front of one of the guild's solicitors in August last year.

House firebombed

Firehombers have destroyed the home of a man who planned to set up a neighbourhood watch on a Luton estate which was the scene of rioting earlier this summer. Rod Stewart, 41, had moved his family out of the terraced house on the Marsh Farm estate before the attack after receiving warning threats from local teenagers.

Police cell death

A police inquiry has been launched into the death of Christopher Baldwin, 30, from Bingham in Nottinghamshire, who was found hanging in a police cell an hour after being arrested for an alleged burglary in Str Ann's, Northingham.

Hunt for bomber

Irish police are searching for a lone bomber thought to have planted four devices in Dublin entre (ms was discovered in the baby goods section of a department store. None of the attacks is believed to have had paramilitary or terrorist involvement.

Tramp attacked

A tramp died from "horrific" head injuries after he was stamped on in a shopping centre in Leicester. Police said there was no motive for the "the savage attack" on the homeless man, who was in his 50s and who was found with several fractures to his skull.

cape you would have to scale a THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD Police warned members of BeigumBFr80 Italy L4,500 Cananes ... Pte300 Madeura ... Esc325 Cypnus CE1.20 Malta 43 cents Denmark.....Dkr18 Norwey..... Nkr20

near Hull, while they were working on a prison farm. insh Rep45p Portugal ... Esc325 Both men are dressed in reg-Germany DM4.5 Sweden. Str20 ulation blue and white striped Greece Dr450 Switzertand . Sir4,00 prison shirts and jeans. One Linembourg ...LF60 USA......\$3.00 man is from West Yorkshire and the other is from Cleveland. Po-OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Police want to caution drug dealers

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

More novice drug dealers will be cautioned rather than prosecuted under radical proposals being considered by the police, it was revealed yesterday.

The scheme, which would require legislation, would allow the police to give out more cautions to drug users on the condition they obtain medical help or counselling. The proposal, which was supported in principle by chief constables yesterday, is aimed at diverting young drug-takers and dealers away from the courts.

Also included in a package of measures recommended at the Association of Chief Police Officers autumn conference in Coventry were plans for greater police involvement in drug education in schools.

Children as young as four need to learn of the dangers of drugs, the conference heard. Chief constables were told that police needed to draw up national guidelines because in some schools there was evidence that children had been encouraged, rather than discouraged, to take illegal substances after being told about them by the police and drug

The police also intend to encourage teachers, parents, college and university heads to report drug trends to them.

The recommendations were the result of a 12 month inquiry by the ACPO drugs sub-committee. Keith Hellawell, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire and the committee's chairman said: "We need to find ways of diverting first time offenders, particularly children from the

He said yesterday that one way of achieving that aim, while attempting to wear young people away from drugs, was to have new cautioning powers. These would force anyone who was cautioned to obtain expert advice or go to a treatment centre. Failure to do so could result in court action or the offender being charge.

Mr Hellawell insisted this

was not a "soft" policy or a form of drugs decriminalisation as the caution would still be recorded on the offender's police record. He argued that cautioning was already rising and this measure would be more effective.



Back at Westminster, a pact is sealed

MARY BRAID

At high noon, three days after they admitted a clandestine courtship and declared their mutual regard to the world, politics' happiest couple emerged into the sunshine yesterday to face the press

Big Ben had just done chimng when renegade Conservative Alan Howarth MP - treacherous toerag or courageous, conscientious politician, depending on your point of view - and Tony

The Royal Parks Agency

banned rollerblading in four of

decided to restrict the sport to

On the grounds that parks are

primarily for pedestrians", the

agency has turned four of the

capital's eight Royal Parks - St

James's Park, Green Park, Re-

gents Park and Greenwich Park

- into no-go areas for in-line skating, as it is officially called.

specific areas in others.

CLARE GARNER

split-face grin but Mr Howarth, MP for Stratford-upon-Avon, almost managed. Seldom in the history of unlikely unions have a pair seemed quite so delighted with each other.

It has conceded limited access to

roads and cycle routes in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens

and given a free rein in Bushy

David Welch, the agency's

chief executive, would ideally like skaters to go elsewhere. He

has urged them to seek out "ai-

ternative, more suitable venues"

The Royal Parks are pri-marily for pedestrians and, al-

though we try to accommodate

as many activities as we rea-

for their sport.

Park and Richmond Park.

Former Tory minister Mr Howarth, sporting a red tie with the faintest of blue patterns, said he had no regrets about his decision to defect

Blair, the Labour leader, made their first joint appearance outside Westminster.

From the Tory party. This week's about Asian minorities. Then gathering of the faithful in Blackpool had merely vindicularly dulging in an extraordinary It is hard to match Mr Blair's cated his action. He even suggested former colleagues might soon follow. He had just been talking to one Tory MP who had been "deeply shocked" by events and talk at Blackpool.

"Yesterday's proceedings confirmed my worst fears," said Mr Howarth. "We saw Dr Mawhinney opening up with an attack on local government and some unfortunate remarks

sonably can, we cannot let any

Davina Weir-Willats, spokes-

woman for the British In-Line

Skating Association (BISA),

branded the ban "undemocra-

tic" and "unfair". She said:

"Skating can appear intimidat-

ing to pedestrians, but is, in truth

a safe and enjoyable past time

with, on the whole, a good

The clampdown follows a

users," he said.

safety record."

tirade of anti-foreigner emotion. It is exactly what I warned against. This retreat by the Tory party into narrow, aggressive insularity will be a catastrophe for the country.

His lasting impression was of Mr Major sitting "hunched and wan" while Michael Portillo did his "great dictator bit". At the end Mr Major had been forced to lead the applause, a

summer in which unprece-

a cyclist, Mark Welch, 26, died

after being in a collision with a

The agency has promised to

follow up the recommendation of the coroner at Mr Welch's in-quest, Dr Paul Knapman, to

seek stronger powers to deal with anyone whose behaviour

interferes with the safety and en-

However, Ms Weir-Willats

joyment of other park users.

skater in Hyde Park.

prisoner of his right-wing. Mr Blair was pressed on whether Mr Howarth could expect to return to the House of Commons as a Labour MP? And there was a hint of the Trojan horse; how could the Labour leader expect his party to trust such a turncoat?

· Mr Blair stood by his man. It was "absolutely clear that the Labour Party has taken Alan to its heart," he said. And he was sure he would be carefully considered for selection.

the public not to approach the Rollerbladers are rocked by parks banpair, who are in their early 20s. They escaped from Everthorpe, single activity dominate a park dented numbers of skaters took face of Dr Knapman's recomto the detriment of other park to the parks. Earlier this year, mendations which included the

> The new arrangements in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens will be monitored and reviewed after six months. A code of conduct for skaters in the Royal Parks has also been amended to include the new re-Strictions.

assertion that rollerbladers had

as much "right" to be in the

parks "as a nanny with a

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'I want justice for girls who didn't make it'



Caroline Owens: 'I want to get justice for the girls who didn't make it, because i feel

The victim of a sex attack by Rosemary and Frederick West broke down in the witness box at Winchester Crown Court yesterday, saying she blamed herself for the Cronwell Street

killings.
"I want to get justice for the girls that didn't make it, because I feel like it is my fault," said Caroline Owens, who then started to sob and slumped for-

ward in the witness box.

Mr Justice Manteli, the indge, asked somebody to help her and an usher assisted Mrs Owens, 39, from the court.

On Tuesday, Mrs Owens had told the court that in December 1972 the Wests picked her up while she was hitch-hiking. She was then knocked unconscious, bound and gagged and taken to 25 Cromwell Street. Gloucester, where she was raped by Mr West and sexually assaulted by both of them.

She was giving evidence at the trial of Mrs West, 41, who denies murdering 10 girls and young women whose remains were found at Cromwell Street and at the Wests' previous home in Gloucester.

Mr West, who was charged with 12 murders, was found dead in his prison cell on 1 January this year.

It was revealed in a statement read out in court yesterday that Mrs Owens attempted suicide by taking a drugs overdose four ears after the attack and that she is still receiving counselling more than 20 years later.

In the statement that Mrs Owens made to police last year, she said: "After the abduction and rape in 1972, I was very depressed and had low self-esteem. I was prescribed librium tablets to help by my family doc-

She said that in 1976 she had moved to Weston-super-Mare. "A doctor there prescribed me mild tranquillisers, siniquon, I think. The next day I took an overdose, about 25 tablets."

Mrs Owens was taken to hospital where her stomach was pumped, but her problems have continued and she said in the statement that she was still being helped by a counselling service in Gloucester.

have been very sensitive to people being close to me and cud-



Fred and Rosemary West: Pleaded guilty to assaulting Caroline Owens in 1973

about the attack and also be-

by Fred and Rose. In particular, I am wary of other adult females even friends. I have a terrible feeling of worthlessness.

"When I became aware of the women that had been murdered and the alleged involvement of Fred and Rose West in 1994, I felt anger, frustration, guilt. I felt that if I had gone to court on my rape case, I could have stopped it."

Mrs Owens explained in evidence yesterday that she could have insisted that Mr West was charged with rape. Instead, she settled for both the Wests being charged with assault causing actual bodily harm and indecent assault.

The couple pleaded guilty to both charges when they appeared at Gloucester magistrates' court in January 1973 and were fined £50 each. A rape charge would have certainly West, just three months before in the Cromwell Street cellar. story in order to make it more Mrs Owens, who worked for saleable to the media. Mr Ferguson suggested that the Wests as a nanny, said yes-Mrs West had not had oral sex terday that she felt ashamed with her, that Mr West did not

cause she had previously had sexual intercourse with Ben Staniland and Alan Davies, two lodgers at Cromwell Street. She said: "The police treated me really badly. That put me

off going to court as well. I decided to cover it all up. I put it to the back of my mind." Mrs Owens admitted vester-

day that she had signed a contract with the Sun newspaper for £20,000 for her exclusive story, £9,500 of which had already been paid. She had also been approached by other newspapers and television networks and had turned down an offer of £50,000 from the Sunday

Under cross-examination by fending Mrs West, she strongly denied that she had embroidered the details of her all material particulars as the ac-

count she gave during the course of her evidence and the contents of the document which she later handed to the Sun newspaper.

Re-examined by Brian Leveson, QC, for the prosecution, Mrs Owens said that during the attack Mrs West was "grinning and laughing wickedly - she looked evil to me".

It was when Mr Leveson asked her "has commercial advantage anything to do with why you have come to court today? that Mrs Owens said she had done so for the girls who died and broke down in tears.

The next witness was the mother of Lynda Gough, who told the jury of eight men and ed the Wests' home to look for her daughter after she went

June Gough said that on 19 April, 1973, her daughter left their home in Gloucester without warning and took all her possessions with her. She left a note which said: "I have got a flat and I will come and see you some time."

When Lynda, 19, did not get in touch, her parents became worried and Mrs Gough made inquiries which led about two weeks later to Cromwell Street.

The door there was answered by a woman who she recognised as having once come to the Goughs' home to take Lynda out for a drink. A man joined the woman at the door. She told the court: "I said that

I'd come to see Lynda. They said she wasn't there. That she had left. They said she was going to Weston-super-Mare.
"I immediately noticed that

she was wearing Lynda's slippers and some other article of clothing which I can't immediately bring to mind. "I said: 'But those are Lyn-

da's slippers you are wearing and there are some of Lynda's things on the washing line.' She said that she had left them behind when she left.

"I was saying all this but I got no feedback, there was nothing coming back," said Mrs Gough, who continued to search for her

She went to the police, the an admission on behalf of the Salvation Army and to Westonsuper-Mare - all to no avail. da's remains were found in the

Football stars in court to face match-rigging charges

STEVE BOGGAN

From # .

Three of the Premier League's top football stars appeared in court for the first time yesterday to face charges of match rigging. Bruce Grobbelaar, the

Southampton and Zimbabwe goalkeeper, John Fashanu the retired Aston Villa striker, and Hans Segers, the Wimbledon goalkeeper, appeared at the magistrates court in Southampton, Hampshire, with a Malaysian businessman. Heng Suan Lim, 11 months after the allegations of bribery in British foot-ball first surfaced.

All four are charged with conspiring "to give and corruptly to accept gifts of money as in-ducements improperly to influence the outcome of football matches or as rewards for hav-

Mr Grobbelsar, 37, faced two further charges. That on 25 November 1993, while still playing for Liverpool, he "corruptly accepted from John Pashanu ... the sum of £40,000 as a reward for having ... improperly influenced the outcome of the Liverpool versus Newcastle United football match on 21 November 1993" - Newcastle won the game 3-0. And that he accepted £2,000 from Christo-



Grobbelaar outside court yesterday Photograph: Edward Webb

pher Vincent, a former business associate, for "improperly influencing the outcome of a football match or matches".

The Zimbabwe national goalkeeper, dressed in an olivegreen suit and white shirt, sat in front of the dock with his coaccused. He spoke to none of them during the 40-minute hearing but smiled once during representations for the prosecutions by David Evan-Hughes. Mr Fashanu, 32, a presenter of ITV's Gladiators show, faced charges relating to both of the games on which the prosecution is concentrating. He is alleged to have been responsible for the £40,000 payment to Mr Grobbelast and for a further payment

of £19,000 to Mr Segers.
The charges allege that between 18 and 25 October 1994 he paid Mr Segers for "having improperly influenced the outcome of the Wimbledon versus Liverpool match played on 22 October 1994". The final score was 3-0 to Liverpool.

Segers, 33, the former Dutch international keeper, relates to the

alleged receipt of the £19,000. Mr Lim, 29, who described himself as a student and trader, faced only the joint conspiracy charge. Despite earlier media reports describing him as a millionaire, Richard Clark, the deputy stipendiary magistrate for Hampshire, was told that Mr Lim was on income support and had applied for legal aid.

A conspiracy charge against Melissa Kassa-Mapsi, Mr Fashanu's wife, has been dropped. ed on bail until 1 December, by which time the prosecution is expected to have lodged papers for their committal to Crown Court. Conditions attached to the men's bail require them to lodge their passports with po-lice and not to approach Mr Vincent and John Troup, a Sun reporter expected to be a wit-

ss for the prosecution. After the hearing, David He witt, Mr Grobbelaar's solicitor complained about the delay in getting the case to court. "The matter first came to light 11 months ago," he said.

Outside the court, the players, smiling and looking relaxed, were cheered by fans.

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knock her unconscious and lat-

er beat her with a belt, and that

she had not been tied up or raped. Mrs Owens replied: "I

swear on my baby's life they did

Mr Ferguson said: "You

have added these details in a

process of making your account more dramatic and more

commercial when it came to

intention of selling my story. I

had already told the police the

details. I did not go to the pa-

pers, I didn't want them to find

But Mr Ferguson later made

defence. He said: "The de-

of Mrs Owens' police state-

ments in 1994 are the same in

me but they did."

Mrs Owens replied: "I had no

take place.

selling it.

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Shell invites offers for Brent Spar

NICHOLAS SCHOON Environment Correspondent

The Brent Spar may eventually be cleaned out and sunk in shallow North Sea waters, turning it into a gigantic artificial reef, Shell said yesterday. But the company said it did

not want to pursue its original plan of sinking its oil storage budy in deep water with residual contaminants still in its tanks.

Shell UK was setting out its new strategy for deciding how to dispose of the Spar, a 14,500 tonne, 450f-tall redundant oil tank which spent 19 years in the

In June the company's plans for deep-sea disposal were dropped at the last minute after the successful protest cam-

group Greenpeace. The Spar is now in a Norwegian fjord.

Today, Shell will formally invite engineering and construction companies to express their interest in disposing of the structure. It has already received more than 200 offers.

Shell will select up to 30 companies to prepare more detailed proposals, from which a shortlist of six will be invited to draw up plans in depth. Then Shell will choose one to submit to the Government for the necessary permission.

Shell will choose what it regards as the best practicable environmental option (BPEO) the one offering the best combination of minimising threats to workers' safety, damage to the

paign by the environmental environment and cost while maximising public acceptability. Previously it argued that the BPEO for the Brent Spar was

deep-sea dumping. The Government fully accepted this and defended it, which is why ministers were so angry when Shell backed down under pressure from Greeopeace. They insist Shell will have to draw up a highly persuasive case to gain permission for any other option.

Asked if deep-sea dumping could emerge as the BPEO once again, senior Shell UK executives refused to rule it out entirely. Heinz Rothermund, a managing director of Shell UK, said: "We should not be speculating now" on what would emerge after more than a year discussions and planning

during which environmental groups would be consulted and reports published. But "good convincing" alternatives were expected to emerge, even if they were more costly.

Shell's Brent Spar project manager, Eric Faulds, said 95 redundant rigs had been dumped in shallow waters off the United States' coast to form reefs. boosting marine life. If this option was ever chosen for the Brent Spar it would first have some 100 tonnes of oily silt removed from its tanks.

Greenpeace UK's cam-igning director, Sarah Burton, said yesterday: "We have to give Shell the benefit of the doubt." But the group would strongly oppose turning the Brent Spar into an undersea reef.

PORTES IN BLACKPOOL

Lilley to curb benefits for asylum-seekers

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Much tougher benefit rules for asylum seekers were announced vesterday by Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Security, as speakers at the Tory conference called for deeper cuts in welfare spending.

Major's speech on Friday - will save £200m a year by making it impossible to enter the country as a visitor, but then seek asylum to claim benefit.

Those who claim to be refugees as they enter the country will still qualify - but if their

workfare-style schemes for the unemployed, held back for John any appeal, a process which can any appeal, a process which can take between six and 18 months.

> The change was denounced as "totally inhuman" by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, who said people fleeing from danger and hardship would be expected to "live

on air" while they appealed. The new rules - with a pos-sible announcement on pilot they will no longer be entitled fect about 50,000 people, was

Lilley announced as representatives attacked the size of the

£90bn social security budget. Mr Lilley nonetheless won a standing ovation, confirming that a new credit card-style benefit payment card, which will eventually be held by about 19 million claimants of everything from income support to child

social security Mr Lilley declared to be his "top priority". A scheme which pays Post

Office staff £10 for every fraudulent benefit payment they spot is to go nationwide. Staff in the Midlands have earned £60,000 in a pilot scheme over the past two years, seizing order books and Girocheques worth £4m. Mr Lilley appeared to hint at

the only direct spending cut Mr to help cut fraud - the area of new requirements for some of benefits comes as the number work in return for benefit, and at possible cuts in benefits for new, younger, lone parents.

He also said employers who pay above statutory sick pay rates will be able to opt out of the state scheme - a measure that will cut employers' costs but not public spending.

the long-term unemployed to of applicants has climbed from rust over 3,000 in 1984 to 42,000 last year. In 1994 just 4 per cent were granted refugee status, with a further 4 per cent of those appealing successfully, accord-

ing to Government figures. Seventy per cent claim asyhim after arriving as visitors, tourists or students, having

standing they will support them-selves. Seeking asylum then en-titles them to benefits.

Those who claim asylum as they arrive in the country will still be entitled to belp," Mr Lilley said. But they would lose it if their application was turned pena

M-MM.

down and they appealed. "We all want to help genuine refugees. But Britain should be a safe haven, not a soft touch."

Big spenders take on the Chancellor over tax cuts

COLIN BROWN and NICHOLAS TIMMINS

The three biggest spending departments are involved in a fierce battle with Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, as he strives to meet the Prime Minister's demand for "ruthless" sisting that the manifesto pledge spending reductions to leave of real-terms growth in NHS room for pre-election tax cuts. The Chancellor is expected

today to insist that tax cuts will come only when he judges it prudent. His problems are high-lighted by the fact that neither health nor education, two of the three "protected" areas - and therefore in theory two of the easiest to settle - have yet reached agreement on next year's spending levels.

Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Security, is vigorously resisting short-term cash cuts in his budget, warning

they could cause the political difficulties that his area-byarea longer-term review of social security has largely avoided. Stephen Dorrell at Health -

despite announcing a 5 per cent £140m cut in NHS management costs next year - is inspending must mean just that, and not the absolute minimum figure needed to meet the pledge. And Gillian Shephard at Education is still not satisfied that she has sufficient cash to prevent a repeat of last year's explosion of anger over the underfunding of teachers' pay

Sources indicate that capital ending is to be hit hard across the board – shelving new roads and hospital building that is not privately financed. The Treasury is insisting that the private fi-

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nance initiative be extended versity and higher education buildings.

But Mr Clarke is expected to ease his problems to some extent by selling off the Housing Corporation's loan portfolio to the private sector - a move that could raise £1bn that could be spent on reducing borrowing or cutting taxes, or by providing an indirect boost to the housing market if the cash was given to housing associations to buy existing houses.
The Chancellor will address

the conference amid evident tensions in Cabinet over how far taxes should be cut next month. Several spending ministers believe that deep public spending cuts now to make that possible would be politically dangerous so close to a general election -

ing hard to defend their corner. The independent institute for Fiscal Studies yesterday called into question the Government's ability significantly to cut the £90bn social security spending further. "Realistically, further cuts will only be achieved if the Government

gives up its responsibility for mafor areas of social security spending, such as universal pension provision, and it is unlikely that this Budget will contain any such drastic measures." the institute said. Its annual green Budget argued welfare spending was not

out of control with projections to 2000 showing it falling as a proportion of gross domestic product thanks to measures the Government has already taken, which have cut projectand while others support tax ed spending by £4bn a year.

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Hair apparent slips up on greasy pole

Justin Hinchcliffe's problem was his hair. All week he had been trying to become the youngest ever speaker at the fory party conference and at the last he failed. He arrived in Blackpool with

a three-point plan in his bag which involved: being 14, telling the Daily Mail he wanted to be Prime Minister, and espousing a political agenda that would have been rejected as too extreme by the members of the Portillo Expeditionary Force presently sticking up for England in Oslo. But he forgot to pack the shampoo.

So he sat silent during the education debate he had hoped to make his own, his hair a skidpan of adolescent hormones. threatening to enslick those around him every time he nodded. As speaker after speaker berated Tony Blair for sending his son to an opted-out school, a posse of photographers surrounded young Justin, snapping his disappointment as he remained ignored by party spin doctors terrified at presenting so unwashed a vision of Tory-

dom to the voters. The last name called from the floor had him pricking up his ears in excitement. It was Justin! But - a cruel jest by the chairman - it referred to Justin Powell-Rick, president of the Federation of Conservative Students, a portly gent in a suit who had clearly taken the Brandon Lee route to university since he didn't appear to be a day under 35.



The fearsome young Hinchcliffe, then, will have to wait another year. He will have learnt. though, from being in the hall to watch Michael Heseltine, a man who knows all about the presentational importance of well-kept hair. The Heseltine mane has subtly changed as its owner's responsibilities have

become more expansive. The First Secretary of State, as he now titles himself, sculpts it these days into a big M shape, like he's walking around with the McDonald's golden arches on his forehead: the perfect endorsement from the champion of international capitalism. Big Mac head was on enormous form. That is the first thing young Justin would have noticed

about him. While the others on the platform peer over the top of Bri-an Mawhinney's set in the way members of the politburo used to over the Kremlin balcony, Heseltine towered above it. Not so much head and shoulders above his colleagues as chest and midriff. His speech was an election rallying call, full of loud boasts about Tory achievement. In the Heseltine

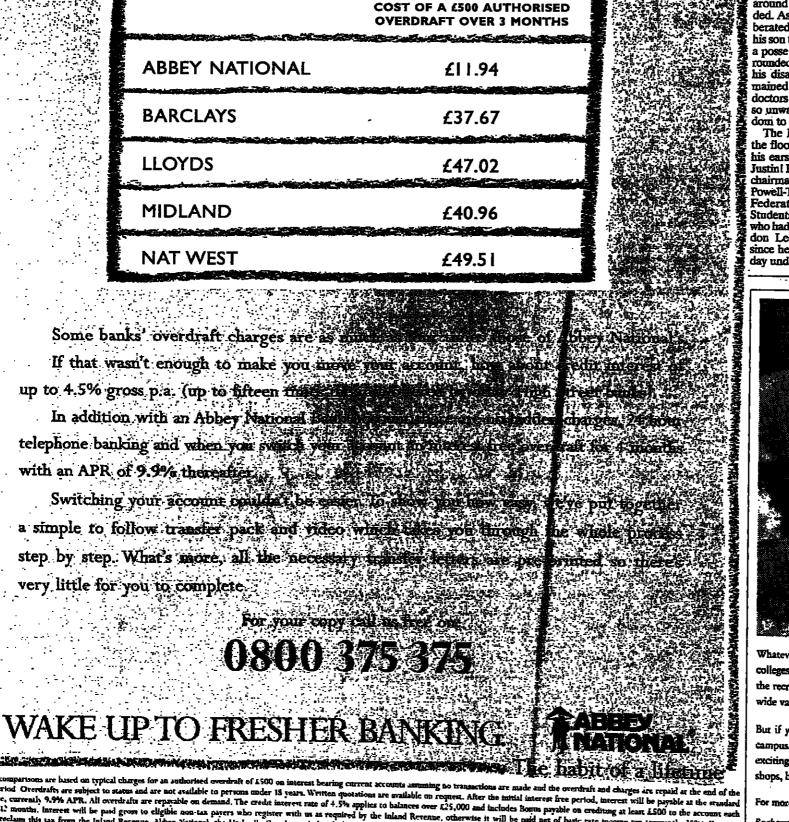
vision in 16 years not a part of our land has remained untouched by the healing fingers of Conservative rule.

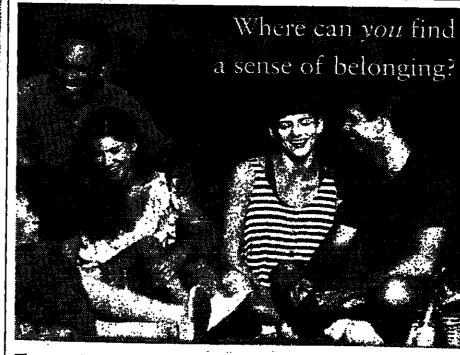
"I have spent most of my political life seeking to improve the lot of our inner cities," he said. As you do when you're MP for Henley-on-Thames.

There were reminders, too, of who was in charge. And, though he warmly credited the Prime Minister, the way Major sat lovingly looking up at him like a gun-dog at its master's knees, left little doubt as to who that was. Hence he was full of demands for internal party discipline, cumningly dressed up as assaults on Labour.

"You can mouth whatever oatriotic rhetoric the PR men can devise," he snorted, ostensibly at Tony Blair, but Michael Portillo was significantly absent from the hall, off at the opticians perhaps having his eyes ungoggled. And then the Deputy Prime Minister warned: "The British people are not for sale." So bang goes another William Waldegrave initiative on raising funds for tax cuts.

As has been standard for the past 20 years. Heseltine won a thunderous ovation. A woman in the front row waved a hankie wildly as if to a loved one from the quayside, John Major flapped his big sea-lion hands together, and even Ted Heath, was moved to clap at least three times. So huge an ovation, indeed, it probably drew complaints about the noise. From as far away as Walworth Road.



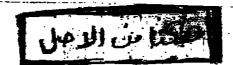


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* EMBLIES IN BLACKPOOL

Education debate: Good English and heads' training seen as top priorities

Shephard to penalise 'grunting' youngsters

STEPHEN GOODWIN and JUDITH JUDD

seeken

Adolescents whose principal means of communication is a modulated grunt will find it recorded in their GCSE English results, under proposals put forward yesterday by Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for

Education and Employment. Mrs Shephard's drive to improve standards also includes a suggestion that rules of spelling and grammar could be advertised on buses and trains.

After taking in the "poem on the Underground", commuters would be able to brush up on the split infinitive or where to put their apostrophes.

"Our language is too precious a national asset to be neglected, she said. "Our young people must leave school able to speak clearly and effectively in standard English. Communication by grunt is not good

Mrs Shephard, who was given a prolonged standing ova-tion, announced the setting up of a steering group to take forward her Campaign for the Better Use of the English

reader, Trevor McDonald, it will be provided with £250,000 to meet administrative costs for two years and thereafter it must find private sector funding. The group will include people from business, trade unions, sport and journalism.

While these "bright energetic people" pursued initiatives to promote the use of better English, the Government's role

was to get pupils' qualifica-tions right, she said. In future, pupils will receive a grade for spoken English recorded separately on the GCSE certificate.

Currently, 20 per cent of the marks for GCSE English are given on oral performance, but the result is not recorded sep-

Mrs Shephard insisted the campaign was not about regional accents, but about ensuring young people could speak clearly and comprehensibly. "Employers tell us that far too many young people looking for jobs simply can't communi-

Her idea that spelling and grammatical rules could feature merscale, head of Westminster Language. on public transport was not School, said: This is yet another Chaired by the ITN news mentioned to the conference, pressure, yet another hazard for



good schools and higher stan-dards," she said. teachers of English to negotiate. It will be very difficult to pro-

The Teacher Training Agency duce an objective and dispas is being asked to start work on sionate view of what standard English should be." the project immediately, and to With school standards high have pilot schemes running by among the concerns of Tory the next academic year. members during the education Aimed at teachers and debate, Mrs Shephard an-

deputy heads seeking promonounced a new professional tion, Mrs Shephard said she qualification for headteachers. would not insist on serving "Strong, effective heads mean

> Launching an attack on had committed themselves to perhighway. "You cannot cre-

> > against us - then five years later, Labour tells the world why we were right and they were WYOUG.

Partiament the will be tellir

Yesterday at the conference Main announcements

·Five per cent cut in hospital grey suits,

Quotes of the day

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Political Correspondent

Dorrell

admits

boom in

health

'suits'

The Government yesterday conceded that the growth of grey suits" in the health service had spiralled out of control as Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of State for Health, slashed 5 per cent off next year's administration spending in health authorities and trusts.

The savings of around £140m would be re-channelled into improved patient care and not sacrificed to Treasury pressure for cuts in the current public expenditure round, Mr Dorrell pledged.

Further reductions in red tape could follow from an efficiency scrunity Mr Dorrell

would report in 90 days. The announcement is none the less an admission that money has been wasted on unnecessary administration.

Mr Dorrell told a news conference: "I think it was a major step forward to introduce and strengthen management. We have strengthened management and we are going through a fa-miliar process of having built up to the process we are tightening up. The build-up has led to some unnecessary process. But the purpose of the build-up was

unambiguously right.

Mr Dorrell indicated that significant numbers of administrative jobs would go - although the exercise could spawn more posts in patient

Labour in his conference speech, Mr Dorrell said Labour retaining health trusts and to separating the planning and delivery of care.
"Labour spokesmen inveigh

More than £2bn worth of Private Finance Initiative projects were under threat he said. "Labour haven't had five years to get used to it yet. They will. And in the middle of the next us we were right on this as well.

saving 2140m . Tougher benefit rules for asylum seekers.

saving £200m
• Railtrack to be sold off next spring Campaign for the better use of the English language - grades for spoken English detailed on GCSE certificates and grammar posters on buses

"Politics is about serving your country's electorate and not puertie posturing." Lord Plumb, leader of the Conservative MEPs hits back at

"Truly we are building a British show-stopper." Michael Heseltine
"The new benefit payment card - the taxpayer's inflexible friend." Peter
Littley on his latest anti-fraud initiative.
"I am addressing conference as social security secretary for the
fourth time. Gail thinks: I am suffaining from long term welfare depen-

dency." Mr Lilley. (Gall is Mrs Lilley.)
"New Labour is only old socialism in a designer suit. They even crammed John Prescott into one." Gillan Shephard. ...bad day Devil of the day



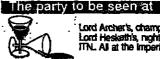
set out his right wing agends to a packed fringe meeting after addressing a virtually empty room on Tuesday

David Curry lacklistre speech on the wrong subject – taked about housing after repeated demands for an

The big three on the fringe 1 John Redwood on "Conservative Principles, Winning Ways" at the Selsdon Group 2 Right-wingers Edward Leigh and Iain Duncan-Smith on "The Future of Conservatism". Organised by the

Freedom Association and YCs.

3 Lord Plumb taking on the Euro-sceptics. Conservative Group for



Lord Archer's, champagne and shepherd's pie Lord Hesketh's, night two, champagne ITN. All at the Imperial Hotel

Labour leftle MP Ken Livingstone and Liberal Democrat



Matthew Taylor, both making television programmes. David Hare, author of a play about a Labour leader, Fat cass Cedric Brown (British Gas) and Jain Vallence (BT) 3min 43sec

2min

Higher Belioc for providing the inspiration for the most humorous and thoughtful speech of the day. Peter Liley parodied one of the poets

lan Lang, Trade and Industry, William Hague, the Young, Kenneth Clarke, Economy, Michael Howard, Home affairs, St. Pairick Mayheri Northern Ireland

War-horse Heseltine rallies the troops

but buried in a press release ac-

companying the speech. News-

papers and broadcasters could

promote good English through

competitions, it was suggested.

ters' Conference in Dublin were

unimpressed with Mrs Shep-

hard's proposals. David Sum-

Delegates at the Headmas-

Chief Political Correspondent

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, issued an election rallying call to Tory supporters with a promise that their annual conference in Blackpool represented a "turning point" like Alamein in the Second World War.

n Blackpool to be

Labour of Alan Howarth, the Tory MP, could force the Government to go to the country before the spring of 1997.

Mr Heseltine told the conference that some had compared the demoralised state of the Conservative Party to the defeated British army as it re-His call to arms followed a treated after Dunkirk. "I reject warning to party workers by the such defeatism. Remember in-Prime Minister at a private stead Alamein. The turning prepared for an early election, ence is such a turning point." assisted places system.

if necessary. Three by-election It was a vintage rallying cry defeats after the defection to from the party's old warhorse, and it won the longest standing ovation of the conference.

With his blond hair falling over his forehead, Mr Heseltine put the boot into Tony Blair and the Shadow Cabinet, accusing the Labour leader of "nauseating hypocrisy" for sending his son Evan to a grant maintained school while "kicking the ladders of opportunity" away from "inner-city kids" by

He indulged in some pan-tomime, recalling his warning to the conference 20 years before that Labour was marching to the "left, left, left". Acting like a drill sergeant major on the platform, he demonstrated how Mr Blair's troops had wheeled round, and were marching

right, right, right." The former President of the Board of Trade also criticised Mr Blair's coup with BT to supply every school, hospital, library

ate an IT superhighway if you do secret deals with a monopoly power and undermine the competitiveness that makes the whole thing possible," he said. Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, was due last

night to have private talks at a reception at Blackpool with Ian Vallance, the BT chief. Mr Lang is expected to tell the conference today that the cable network companies are prepared the information technology su- IT links to institutions.

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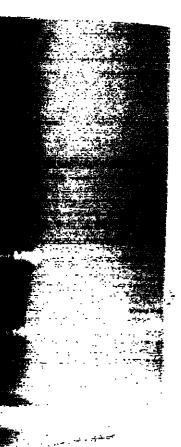
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a front row seat.



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SODY







Teaching at new universities fails to make the grade

FRAN ABRAMS Education Correspondent

Students receive a much higher standard of teaching in traditional universities than they do in the former polytechnics, according to an official report leaked to the Independent.

The revelation has brought calls for more money from the new universities, which say they cannot compete because they do not receive as much research funding as the older institutions.

Eight out of ten departments graded "excellent" under an in-spection system introduced in 1993 were in old universities, the report says, and only two out of ten were in former polytechnics.

Subjects popular in the new universities were also less likely to do well. Only 10 per cent of computer science depart-ments were rated "excellent," compared with almost 80 per cent of anthropology depart-ments. Nationally, more than a quarter of departments were found to be excellent, but fewer than one-fifth reached that

level in engineering, science and technology subjects.

The report analyses almost 1,000 assessments in 15 different subjects carried out between February 1993 and March 1995. It will be published next month in the annual report of the quality division of the Higher Education Funding Council for England, which oversees the peer reviews of university teaching quality.
Of a total of 976 departments

assessed, three-quarters were satisfactory. Almost 80 gave cause for concern before the inspection visit, but only 12 received an "unsatisfactory" rating, just one of which was in an old university. In chemistry, computer science and history, only one department in the entire former polytechnic sector

was found to be excellent. Although the report says there is no proven connection between the results of these asments and the funding, research achievements or size of a department, it does point to some strong links.

Only 6 per cent of departments at the bottom of a fivepoint research status scale were graded excellent - suggesting that the new universities claims to concentrate on good teaching rather than academic advances may be ill-founded. Six out of ten excellent gradings were found in the largest 40 per

cent of departments. Last night, new universities agreed that good teaching must be backed by good research, and they called for extra funding to help them improve their performance.

Professor Mike Brown, pro vice chancellor of De Montfort University, the former Leicester Polytechnic, said only one out of ten departments assessed there had gained an excellent

"I don't think we can cry 'foul'. It is certainly true that the traditional universities have been resourced far better than the polytechnics and it will take many years to equalise." he said:

Churches to seek ban on beggar

JOHN McKIE

Two churches are today taking High Court action to ban a beggar from visiting the premises, except for religious services. St Mary's Church in Saffron Walden, Essex, alleges that beg-

gar Michael Walker has stolen from its collection boxes, charged visitors for admission, verbally abused other visitors. opened envelopes and urinata terryear period.

The 15th-century hill-top

church and Stansted Church the church nearest Mr Walker's home - are seeking an injunction stopping him entering the premises of the churches "except during the times of divine

The warden of St Mary's, Lawrence Gooderham, said yesterday: "You can't turn the other cheek forever and it's having a terrible effect on people coming to the church.

"St Mary's is one of the major tourist attractions of the area and everyone visiting Saffron Walden wants to see it. "He tries to steal the church

guidebooks and sell them to tourists. A lot of people find him frightening.
"We haven't got a full-time staff, only a welcoming rota.

When he sees a gap in the rota and there's no one at the church entrance, then he goes in. He's very clever.
"Members of the clergy have spent a lot of time trying to get through to him but he's not the sort of person with whom you

can have a logical conversation. The form of his language isn't such that you could print it." Essex County Council has already gained an injunction banning him from all libraries in the county and he now lives in a



council house in Stansted, baying been driven out of Saffron Walden by angry residents and

Mr Gooderham added: "Saffron Walden is his great love and he still manages to hitch-hike his way into the area.

"He is able to claim benefit, he just takes money from visitors to supplement his income." A spokeswoman for Uttlesford council, which was behind his ban from Essex libraries, said: "He only leaves the library after the police have been

called. It's very difficult." This will not be Mr Walker's first visit to court. He represented himself against the council and is expected to present his

own defence today. He was not available for comment yesterday.

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Heads seek fairer science A-levels

GOOT HINDOL Education Editor

Exam boards should change their marking so that bright A-level science students are not penalised, private and state school heads said yesterday.

In a joint statement issued at the Hend Masters' Conference in Dublin they said pupils were deterred from taking science in the sixth form because they believed that it was harder to get good grades than in art subjects.

The heads accused the exam boards of "norm referencing" allocating a very similar per-centage of candidates to each grade each year. Since a higher proportion of bright pupils take science rather than arts, they suffer accordingly.

Research has shown those with an average of grade B at GCSE gain on average half a grade less in A-level physics, maths and chemistry than would have been expected from

their GCSE results.
Graham Able, head of Hampton School, a London private school, said it should not be beyond the wit of the exam

boards to set papers in all subjects every year to the same standard, so that it was as easy, or difficult, to get a grade A in physics as in English or media John Dunford, president of

the Secondary Heads Associa-tion, said: "There is no such thing as an A-level standard, gold or otherwise:" Heads said they did not want

the exams made easier but the boundaries between grades should be changed so it was easier to get As and Bs in science. George Turnbull, of the Associated Examining Board, said the boards did not use norm ref-

erencing. There are no external constraints on the numbers getting grades. The standard in each subject is the one set when A-level began and maintained by the boards ever since. A decision to change that standard could not be taken by us."

Heads said they would like all pupils to continue some science in the sixth form. The statement says: "As a nation we need a scientifically literate population as well as a ready supply of ap-propriately qualified scientists." Find us on the Internet at http://www.nationwide.co.uk/nationwide

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news

Ozone scientists win Nobel prize

STEVE CONNOR Science Correspondent

Pioneering research into the structure of matter and the vulnerability of the Earth's protective ozone layer have won this year's Nobel prizes for physics and chemistry.

Martin Perl, of Stanford University, and Frederick Reines, of the University of California, share the physics prize for their separate discoveries of two subatomic particles that help to explain the birth of the universe.

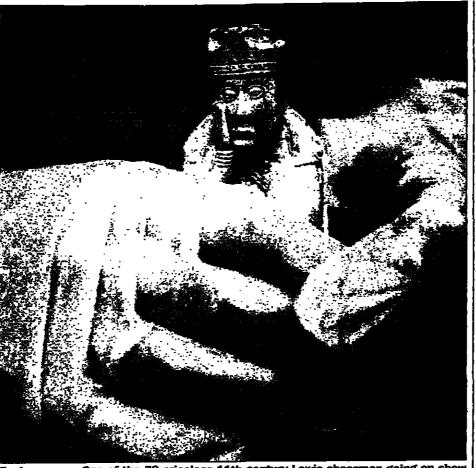
The Nobel prize for chemistry is shared by three scientists for their work on the ozone layer: Paul Crutzen, a Dutchman working at the Max Planck-In-stitute in Mainz, Germany, Mario Molina, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Sherwood Rowland, of the University of California.

The three chemists helped to show that the ozone layer is the Achilles' beel of the Earth's biosphere, the Swedish Academy of Sciences said. "By explaining the chemical mech-

of the ozone layer, the three researchers have contributed to our salvation from a global environmental problem that could have catastrophic conse-

Paul Crutzen demonstrated in 1970 that atmospheric ozone could be destroyed by nitrogen exides - environmental pollutants - in the presence of sunlight. Four years later, Molina and Rowland alerted the world to the threat to the ozone layer posed by the release of chiorofluorocarbons (CFCs), used in aerosol sprays and refrigerators. Their work led to the first restrictions on the release of CFCs during the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The Nobel Prize for Physics recognised the discovery of two of the 12 smallest constituents of the Universe - the tau par-ticle, which is like an electron but thousands of times heavier. and neutrinos, produced by nuclear reactions within the Sun. The research opened up a new branch of astronomy.



King's ransom: One of the 78 priceless 11th-century Lewis che ismen going on show at the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh

Church 'shamed' by child sex abuse

Cardinal Cahal Daly, the leader of Ireland's Catholics, yesterday spoke of his church's "deep hame" over sexual abuse of children by priests. After a three-day conference of Ireland's bishops, the cardinal described assaults on children as "an appalling breach of a sacred trust".

He said: "It has caused immense hurt to many children and families. To all victims and their families and friends we express in the name of the church our most humble apology for the hurt caused to them.

"We are deeply ashamed that some priests and religious have been abusers of children - a few of them on a wide scale."

The cardinal's comments followed a regular meeting of bishops during which almost all the proposed agenda was set aside for discussion of the sexabuse crisis facing the Catholic Church in Ireland. There have been a growing number of courtroom charges and allega-

and church institutions. Last week the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Desmond Connell, admitted lending £27,500 from church funds to a curate to settle abuse claims, and there was confirmation that another priest had made a £50,000 settlement.

Dr Daly said that because of the urgency with which the church hierarchy regarded the issue, the bishops had decided that all reports of serious allegations of child sex abuse against priests would in future be relayed to the police.

This was in line with the central recommendation of a report on child sex abuse from an advisory committee established two years ago. The report is not due to be published until the end of this year, but Dr Daly said the policy was official immediately.

We want to make it clear that it is the policy of the bishops that all allegations where there is rea-sonable cause to suspect that child sex abuse may have ocpropriate civil authorities. This reporting practice goes beyond have adopted it after consider-

ing all the issues involved."

The cardinal highlighted the "distress and pain" left within the church. "We assure our lay faithful that their confidence in their priests is well-founded because of the exemplary fidelity and dedication of the vast majority. This has been, and continues to be, a very painful issue. Our primany concern and preoccupation has been the protection and care of children

Although Dr Daly spoke out forcefully about the issue following the bishops' conference in Maynooth, Co Kildare -- the church's leading centre for the training of priests - church au-thorities betrayed some sensitivity during the early stages of the three-day meeting. At one point a security guard turned away journalists and a senior

ourt 1

How

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Bill British Midland

Greens try to stay afloat in sea of troubles

NICHOLAS SCHOON Environment Correspondent

If Conservative delegates in Blackpool feel a little down about their party's fortunes, they might find some consolation 30 miles down the coast in Southport.

There, the Green Party is holding its autumn conference for the next four days, and it re-ally has got problems. Mem-bership is down to 4,000 and the

party is making heavy losses. The Greens are now resigned to fielding around 70 parliamentary candidates at the next general election after putting up some 400 at the last two. It will be their smallest showing since 1979 - the year the Greens reckon they first registered on

the British electoral scene. At their last nationwide outing before the voters, in the European Parliament elections of June 1994, they won less than 2 per cent of the vote. That was sad contrast with the annus mirabilis of 1989 when they

notched up 15 per cent. Since then, there have been bitter splits, with Sara Parkin quitting the party along with several other leading lights. David Icke, once a principal speaker, reinvented himself first as a "son of godhead" and then as a fantastic conspiracy theorist, while Jonathon Porritt - who is no longer active in the party - was almost expelled last year.

Yet the remaining stalwarts refuse to be downhearted as they strive for the social and industrial revolution they believe is needed to bring humanity into harmony with nature. David Taylor, one of the Greens' two principal speakers, said: "We're used to having our obituary writ-

ten; we're in good heart."
Yesterday dozens of them descended on Blackpool beach, to demand that the Government condemn French nuclear tests, before travelling to Southport for their own conference.

The Greens' agenda and reports show a degree of painful honesty and self-criticism that none of the mainstream parties would ever dream of putting on display. "Once again a difficult year in which membership and income has continued to fall,"

writes treasurer Brian Burnett. About one-third of the Greens' 203 local parties are "at risk of collapse" with another third giving cause for concern.

The party is budgeted to make a £30,750 loss this year, eating it too heavily," said Mr Taylor.

deep into its £80,000 reserves. However, the party can claim some credit for getting a Private Member's Bill promoting en-

ergy conservation in homes enacted into law earlier this year. The Greens drafted the first version - it was later to be heavily watered down - and helped provide the nationwide lobbying pressure over several years which the Bill needed to get on to the statute book.

Now the Greens are working with Friends of the Earth to try







leading lights included Sara Parkin, David Icke, and Jonathon Porritt

that would reduce traffic on the

The party's great hope most would say its only hope of returning to electoral relevance is the advent of propor tional representation. With Labour endorsing a referendum on voting systems, the chances of PR being implemented are

DAILY POEM

He Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths, Enwrought with golden and silver light The blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of night and light and the half-light, I would spread the cloths under your feet: But I, being poor, have only my dreams; I have spread my dreams under your feet; Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

Tonight the BBC will announce the result of its quest to find the nation's favourite poem as part of National Poetry Day, writes Judith Palmer. The bookies have placed their shirts on Anden's "Puneral Blues" and Blake's "Tyger", but in an advance poll among visitors to the Poetry Library on London's South Bank earlier this week, it was this slight but shimmering poem, written by WB Yeats in 1893, which emerged as a clear winner. Runners-up in the library's most requested list - generally the result of poems, lines and half-lines heard in films - are Leo Marks' 'Code Poem for the French Resistance' from Carve Her Name With Pride, and Pablo Neruda's 'The Dead Woman' from Truly, Madly, Deeply.

Judith Palmer is a poetry archivist at the Royal Festival Hall.



shamed sex abuse



Tenors hit Wembley at £350 a ticket

DAVID LISTER

Arts Correspondent

The three tenors were officially labelled pop stars yesterday, and appropriately enough announced a gig at Wembley Stadium with ticket prices up

Luciano Pavarotti, equally appropriately for a pop star, celebrates his 60th birthday today.

He was joined at Wembley yesterday by Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras to announce the first world tour by the three. which will take in Japan. Australia, America and Germany as well as playing Wembley on 6 July next year.

But before they spoke, Ahmet Ertegun, founder of At-lantic Records, who is associated with the tour, said he and the promoter Harvey Goldsmith had concluded that the three tenors were now bigger than the Rolling Stones or Led Zeppelin. They are the stars of the day. Bigger than any of the pop stars of today. They have a universal

appeal which is bigger than any pop star."

As are their prices. At Wembley next year they will range from £35 to £350. But opera audiences, as opposed to rock audiences, at least have their comfort taken into consideration. They may have stars in their cyes, but they will be spared the sun in their eyes. For the first time ever the stage at

Wembley will be built in front

of the Royal Box to eliminate

the glare of the sun as it sets. Vesterday the three tenors were pushed on to the defensive world questioned the commercialism of the tour. "What is commercial?" asked Pavarotti, his normally excellent grasp of English failing him for once. An Austrian journalist helped him

out: "It means lots of money involved, basically," she said. Placido Domingo attempted to clear up the matter by saying: "I think the fact so many people are talking about this is that they haven't realised we are

not forcing anybody to come to this event." Besides, added Carreras, it was an artistic challenge for them to sing with one another, not a commercial one.

Pavarotti, who had earlier refused to answer any questions about his allegedly tangled love life, was prepared to wax lyrical about the joys of turning 60. "To be 60 generally can be something very bad if you are there alone without an example in front of you. I always have the luck to have a father of 83 alive and singing every day like a bird. "And to be an artist gives me

don't know about money. I don't know what is the price of things. That is going to keep me young and sometimes very crazy. I am looking to be 83 like my father. But I will not sing at that age, I promise you."

Carreras and Domingo glanced at him, slightly alarmed. Like the Rolling Stones and Led Zeppelin they may well have been hoping for a comeback

eens tryto w afloatin of trouble

MIN POST

· ter the Clothe of Her

Court backs Howard over IRA men's rights

The Home Secretary, Michael in the breakout but is applying Howard, was yesterday cleared by the High Court of accusations that he unlawfully denied IRA prisoners the right to proper contact with their families

Justice Wright rejected claims that he acted outside his powers by directing that convicted terrorists in "exceptionally high escape risk" category could reive only "closed visits".

Michael O'Brien, serving 18 years for attempted minder, and Liam O'Duibhuir, jailed for 30 years for conspiracy to cause explosions, had claimed that the policy amounted to a fundamental breach of human rights. But the judges said "closed visit" arrangements in their cases could not be described as "other than reasonable", given society's need for protection against high-risk prisoners. They refused leave to appeal.

Mr Howard ordered a jail security clampdown after the attempted armed IRA breakout from Whitemoor prison, Cambridgeshire, in September last year. The new arrangements apply to exceptionally high-risk Category A prisoners, of whom there are 13 in top-security jails. They have no physical contact with visitors and are separated by glass screens during

meetings.
O'Dhuibhir is being held at Belmarsh prison in south London and O'Brien is at Whitemoor. O'Dhuibhir took part in the Whitemoor incident and now faces a charge of breaking prison and possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life. O'Brien was not involved

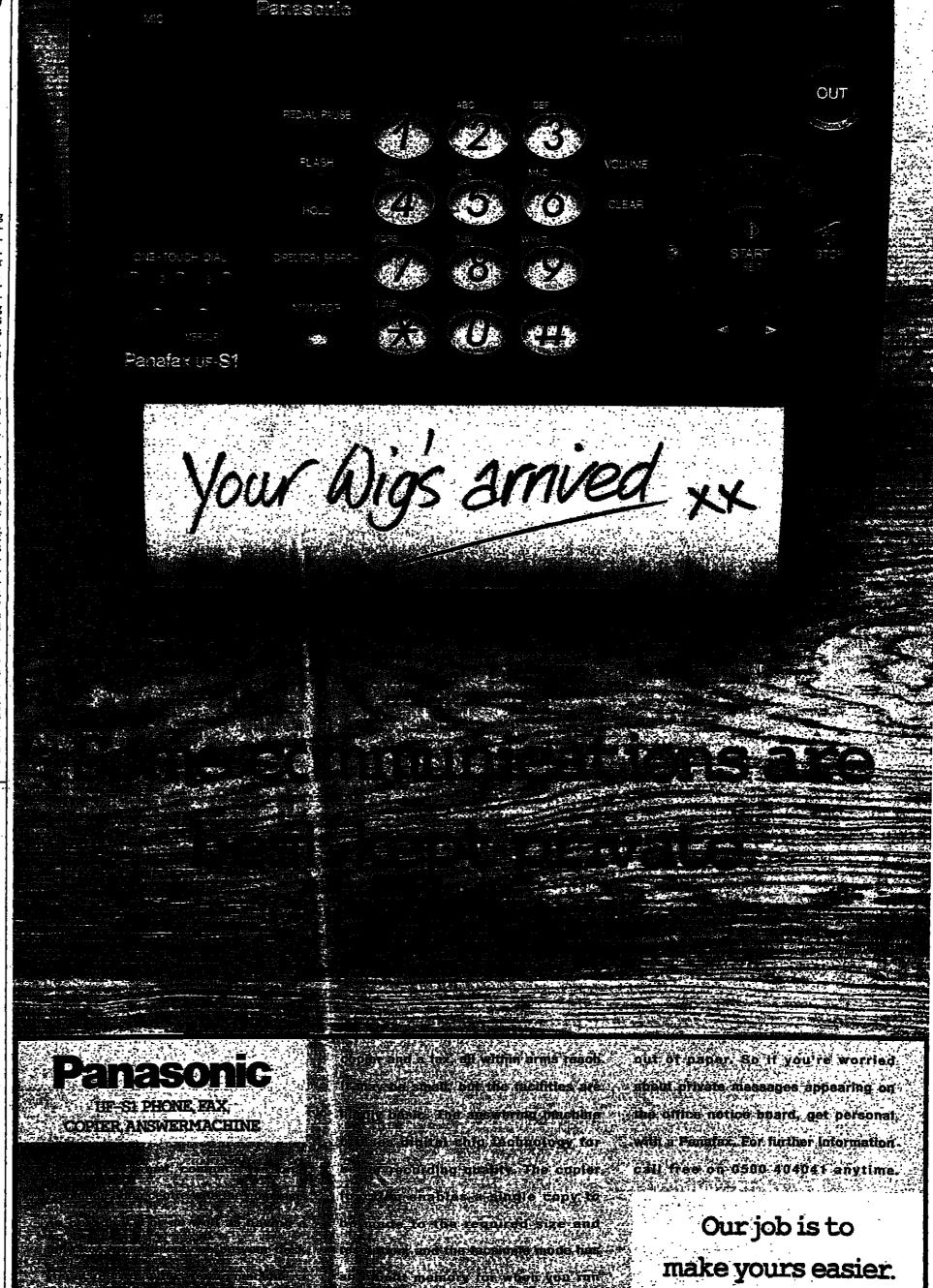
to the House of Lords for permission to appeal over his original conviction in March 1993.

Edward Fitzgerald QC, for the two men, argued that the "closed" regime was unjustifi-Lord Justice Rose and Mr able in the light of other stringent security measures being enforced at top security prisons to prevent unauthorised items being smuggled to inmates. Visitors to special secure units screenings and pass through metal detectors, said Mr Fitzgerald. Security cameras were operating throughout visits. Babies even had to wear special prison nappies.

O'Brien was suffering mental illness as a result of the conditions under which he was being held and faced the prospect of not being able to touch and hold his wife and children during his time in prison.

The judges said the loss of physical contact in O'Brien's case with his family was "of considerable significance". But provided humanitarian considerations were taken into account as the evidence showed they were, said the judges - they were not such as should be regarded by the court as outweighing the security considerations.

The ruling comes just two weeks after Mr Howard was condemned twice in 48 hours. The European Court of Human Rights criticised the SAS killing of three unarmed IRA members in Gibraltar. Then the High Court in London found that Mr hearings for five of Britain's longest-serving IRA prisoners.





value

news

Gays served in forces during **National Service**

STEPHEN WARD

Legal Affairs Correspondent Army regulations allowed men

on National Service to be homosexual, the Ministry of Defence conceded yesterday at the Court of Appeal.

The admission that gays had served in the forces in the past without undermining morale or discipline came on the third day of the latest legal stage of an attempt by four former servicemen and women to overturn Britain's blanket ban on homosexuals in the armed forces.

Earlier in the hearing, the Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, had asked if there had been a ban on homosexuality when he had been serving, because he could not recall one.

Answering Sir Thomas's counsel, Stephen Richards, said compulsory National Service for all men, which ended in 1961, was covered by Acts passed in 1939 and 1948. He said: "There were no provisions to cover homosexuality." He said the list of exceptions including priests, lunatics and

conscientious objectors.' But he said there was "anecdotal evidence", although no "concrete examples", that some

people had been able to avoid national service by saying they were gay. He said homosexuality was illegal at that time, so it seemed that most people just kept quiet about it.

The four appellants are claiming that the ban on homosexuals is irrational, and breaches Equal Treatment directives under the European Union, and Britain's obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights.

In his closing submissions yesterday their counsel, David Pannick OC, said no evidence had been put forward during the hearings that there was a good reason to ban gays from the services. All the arguments related to behaviour, which could be governed by regulations without the need for a blanket ban.

Mr Pannick said the MoD had argued that gays could not be allowed because other members of the forces did not want to serve alongside them. "These feelings undoubtedly exist, but there has been no evidence that they are based on any reasonable concern. If they are simply based on bigotry, they are nacceptable." He said feelings had probably existed against serving alongside black people, but no one would suggest these

should be used as the basis to ban black servicemen and

The MoD has argued that to lift the ban would seriously risk damaging the forces' fighting efficiency, and does not breach either treaty obligation.

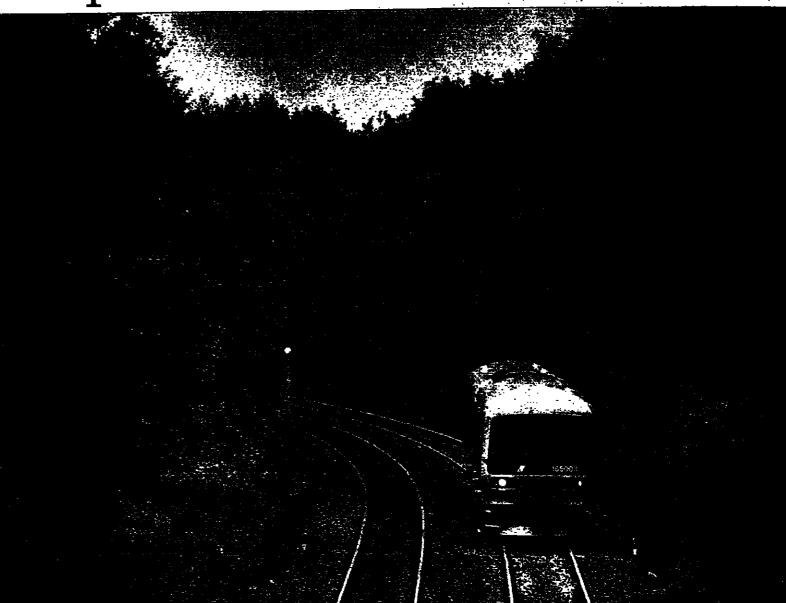
The case was rejected by the High Court in June, although one of the judges, Lord Justice Simon Brown, said he doubted the ban could survive much onger. The MoD subsequently com-

missioned a review of the evidence, and is looking at the operation of other armed forces which do not ban gays. Britain is virtually alone among Nato allies in retaining a ban.
The four appellants are Dun-

can Lustig-Prean, 36, a former lieutenant commander in the navy; Graeme Grady, 32, formerly a sergeant in the RAF; Jeanette Smith, 28, an ex-RAF nurse, and John Beckett, 25 a former navy weapons engineer. All had civilian partners when they were discharged, and all had good service records. They have said they will take their case to the House of Lords if they are turned down by the Court of Appeal.

The hearing ended and the judges reserved their judgment.

Keep leaves on the line, residents say



Off the rails: The trees Railtrack is threatening to chop down by the track at Famborough, Hampshire

LIZ SEARL

lem to stay.

The seasonal excuse of "leaves

on the line" is causing trouble

for Railtrack once again - but

this time because its customers

want the trees causing the prob-

Railtrack has refused to back

down from a decision to fell over 700 established trees along

its Guildford to Reading route

in order to "maintain the safe-

Yesterday, campaigners were celebrating a last-minute tem-

porary reprieve offered by Rail-

track while the issue was

discussed. But later in the day

came the decision that felling would soon begin alongside three-quarters of a mile of track

ty of the railway line".

Photographs: John Voos

Sally Usher, one of the cam-

paigners. "I will lose all of the birds and other wildlife that I

Residents are planning a

"There will be total fury in

the area when people find out

what they have decided," said John Debenham, a councillor

on the planning committee. "We even understand that Rail-

track proposes to do this coun-

try-wide," he said. "There are

thousands of miles of track like

this which we call green corri-

dors. If all of it is going to be vandalised by Railtrack then something should be done

about it on a national scale." The council had hoped to find an alternative method of

curtailing the falling leaves or

to persuade Railtrack to con-

tinue to use its "leafbuster" en-

maximum of four trains an

hour on this piece of track," Mr

Railtrack officers, however,

are adamant that their decision

cannot be reversed. "People

are saying we don't care and that's just not true," said Ms Rawlinson. "We really do care.

There is, unfortunately, no al-

ternative for us here."

Debenham said.

campaign and Rushmore Bor-

ough Council will look into issuing a protection order on

love dearly.

the trees.

pany tried to hide the full extent

In an open letter to local

householders Railtrack advised

it would "clear only selected ar-

eas... and remove only what is

Many gardens which back on

to the line are a haven for squirrels, foxes and many species of bird, they say. There are often sightings of deer in the

woodland and woodpeckers

looking straight across the track

on to the new road bypass," said

"It is not just a case of us

necessary from them".

have also been spotted.

of its plans.

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near Famborough, Hampshire.
"We personally understand
the problem that the residents have with this decision," said Jenny Rawlinson from Railtrack South West. "But there rehave a legal requirement to make sure that the railway line Railtrack claims that leaves on the line turn that section of track into black ice in winter and says the trees surrounding it are spindly and unsafe. It plans to clear eight metres from each side of the track. But residents Sally Usher: Campaigning who were given only a matter to protect wildlife

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Value of fertility treatment is questioned

Patient guide shows up the wide variations in success rates and is critical of the quality of service

The first patient guide to fertility treatments in British hospitals and clinics reveals a wide variation in success rates, as measured by the number of live

It also raises the possibility that scores of people have been paying thousands of pounds for poor-quality treatments. In-vitro fertilisation (IVF) costs be-tween £700 and £2,500 per cycle and donor insemination (DI) costs £100 to £500.

The report shows the live birth rates for IVF treatments vary from 0 per cent to almost 20 per cent, giving a national average of 14 per cent. DI success rates range from 0 to around 43 per cent, giving a national average of almost 7 per cent.

The Guide, published yes-terday by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), lists more than 90 fertility units and, for the first time, provides couples with information that, in theory, should maximise their chances of con-

However, Professor Robert Winston, the leading British fertility expert who works at the Hammersmith Hospital, west London, dismissed the data in the Guide as "flawed and meaningless" and said its publication would force some units to abandon research in favour of improving their success rates for commercial reasons.

"I just don't believe that the patients are getting the infor-mation the HFEA says they are getting. I don't believe that clinics will be honest in providing the [raw] data," he said yesterday.

A spokesman for Issue, the National Fertility Association, welcomed the HFEA initiative but said some of the data was two years old. Ruth Deech, chairwoman of

the HFEA, dismissed claims that the Guide was a "league table" of fertility clinics. She said the Guide had been

sultation with clinics, patients and health authorities about the best way to present the information, a fact disputed by Pro-

The data had been adjusted to account for factors such as the age of the women treated, couples' fertility history, in-cluding previous treatments, and whether fresh or frozen embryos have been used. This meant it was "clear and mean-ingful and fair to clinics" and comparable, Mrs Deech said. The British Fertility Society welcomed its publication, she

"Success is not necessarily to be measured by the 'take home' baby rate. What matters is [a couple] being properly investigated and being enabled to make a decision about what is

right for them." Mrs Deech said patients would want to consider other issues, such as waiting lists, location of the clinic, restrictions on treatment such as age, tests and investigations offered, and

range of treatments.
The Guide urges patients to use the live birth rate figure only as a general guide and discuss with the clinic the likelihood of success in their own particular circumstances.

But critics of the Guide say that the only figure that will matter to couples desperate for a baby is the live birth rate. They will not consider factors such as number of patients and number of cycles of treatment (each attempt at achieving pregnancy is called a treatment cycle) which largely determine success rates.

The multiple birth rate at a particular clinic is also an important factor because twin or triplet pregnancies can endanger the life of the mother and

The patients' Guide to DI and IVF clinics shows that the live birth rate following IVF (in which egg and sperm are mixed outside the womb) was 0 per cent at the Bupa Hospital Norwich, where only 28 cycles of published only after wide con- treatment had been adminis-

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tered, compared with 19.8 per cent at the Lister Hospital and the Royal Masonic Hospital, both private hospitals in London, where between 650 and

957 cycles were given to

cent at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup (41 cycles) and the Bal-four Hospital in Orkney (2 cy-cles) to 42.6 per cent at the University of Bristol IVF Service (23 cycles).

Professor Allan Templeton, a Success rates for donor inmember of the HFEA, said that semination varied from 0 per the Guide provided a "broadly

reassuring picture" and a continuing gradual increase in the national success rate for IVF and DI.

■ The Guide is available from HFEA, Paxton House, 30 Artillery Lane, London E17LS. Send a SAE with 52p postage. Leading article, page 20



I am exhausted, but we just couldn't give up

GLENDA COOPER

Two weeks ago Donna Hunt again failed to conceive through IVF. It was her eleventh attempt in six years at her fourth different clinic. In total she and her partner Neil Anderton have spent an estimated £13,000.

'Had I had the information the HFEA has now given out I would have used it to decide where to go." she said.

Ms Hunt's problems with conceiving stem from two ectopic pregnancies [where the embryo implants in the fallopian tube] in the late 1970s, resulting in the loss of one of her ovaries and both her tubes. IVF was the only alternative. Most of her treatments have been subsidised by the NHS although for the last two she has CASE STUDY

"We've taken out loan after loan, we've done without holidays, carpeting and new clothes to pay for it." said Ms Hunt, a human resources assistant at Barnet General Hospital. "It's been extremely difficult, but we

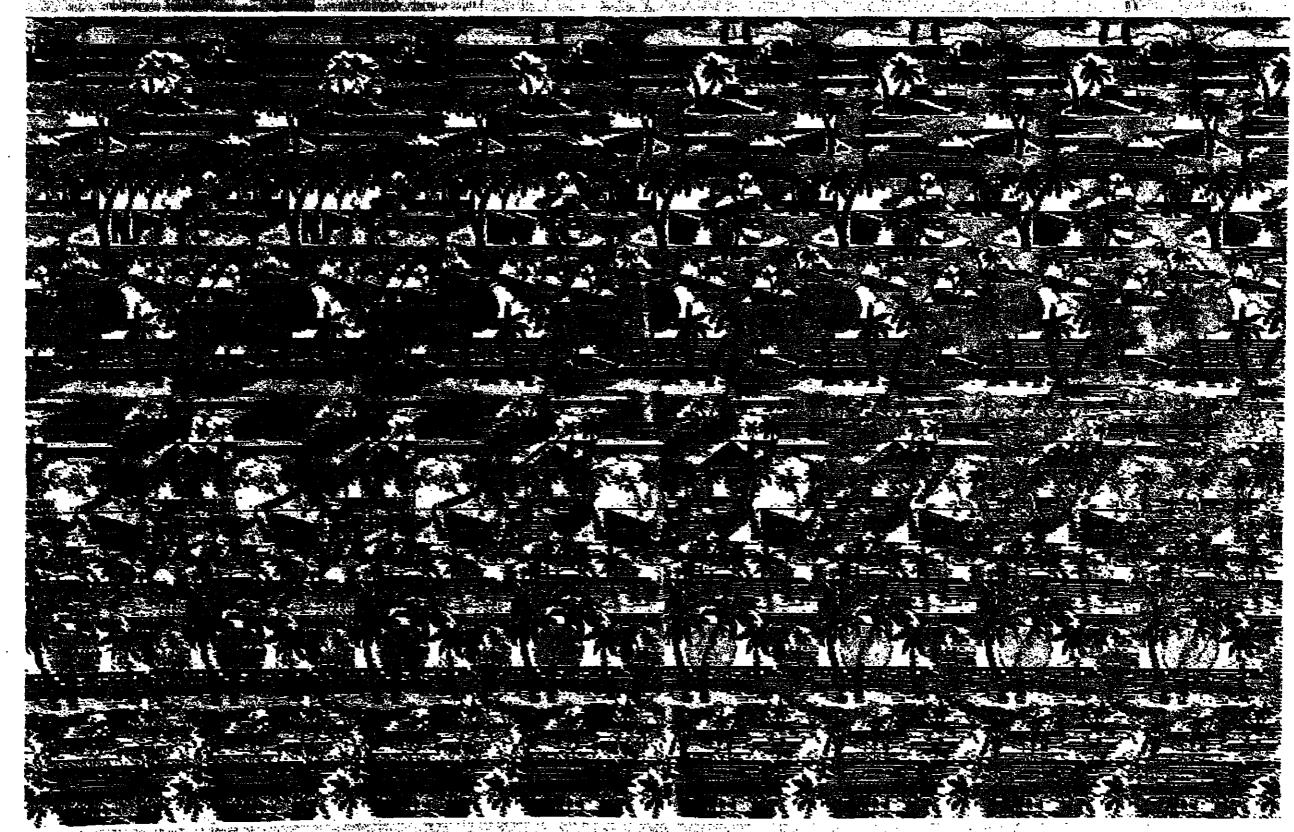
just couldn't give up."

She added: "Emotionally it has taken its toll. I'm absolutely exhausted all the time. I've also put on around three stone in weight because of all the hormones so you end up feeling not

particularly good about yourself. "It also takes a toll on your relationship. Neil and I had to sit down and talk things through. Like most men it doesn't come automatically to do that. The treatment before though for the last two she has last, when I had a miscarriage I Issue can be reached on chosen to go private. It has still at six weeks, he took it very bad-0121-344 4414; 509 Aldridge proved financially crippling. ly and practically lived in the Road, Birmingham B44 8NA.

pub for a good couple of weeks." With support from Issue, the national fertility asments at London's Royal Free Hospital, one at University College Hospital and six attempts at St Thomas's. "At St Thomas's they took me aside after the sixth and said, 'We think you've done everything you can and

you'd better stop'. But Ms Hunt and Mr Anderton sought a second opinion at the private London Women's Clinic in Harley Street. Since then Ms Hunt has had two treatments there which have been unsuccessful and is signed up for a third. Her next treatment will not take place until February. "If that doesn't work I think we will call a halt."



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Bosnia ceasefire: An end to the fighting may be in sight but there are still plenty of diplomatic obstacles to ending the war

Dawning of an unstable peace

TONY BARBER **Europe Editor**

The Bosnian ceasefire announced yesterday represents the most promising opportunity yet to end a war that has torn apart the former Yugoslav for the last three and a half years. However, if the truce is to be converted into lasting peace, the Bosnian Muslims, Serbs and Croats will all have to accept limits to their political and ter-ritorial ambitions - limits for which none has so far shown

much enthusiasm. Perhaps the main reason for thinking that the ceasefire will work is that, for the first time, military reality on the ground broadly corresponds to the peace proposals. The Muslim-Croat forces and the Bosnian Serbs each hold about half of Bosnia's land, a division of territory that matches the principle at the heart of the peace initiative devised by the US envoy, Richard Holbrooke.

Still, serious matters must be hammered out. The future of Saraievo, the eastern enclave of Gorazde and the northern area of Breko are all unresolved, and much uncertainty clouds the relationship between the Muslim

the US, argue that Sarajevo must not be partitioned into two sectors, one controlled by the government and the other by the Bosnian Serbs. But the Bosnian Serbs dislike the idea of resurrecting Sarajevo as a functioning capital city, and equally ominously, some Bosnian Croats want a special Croat sector of Sarajevo.

Then there is Gorazde, the last Muslim-held area in eastern Bosnia. If it is to stay part of the Muslim-Croat federation, should it be linked to the Sarajevo heartland by a corridor of land or merely by a road that would be under Serb control? It is a measure of Bosnian Muslim sensitivities that the US could not persuade the Sarajevo leadership to trade Gorazde for extra territory in central Bosnia. Indeed, President Alija Izetbegovic regards it as a severe injustice that he should be asked to recognise Bosnian Serb control of almost

all the Drina valley towns in eastern Bosnia. The Brcko corridor is a narrow strip of land that connects Serb possessions in eastern only peace available, it is Bosnia with Serb-held regions

leaders and the Bosnian Croats. in the north around Banja The Muslims, supported by Luka. Retention of this corridor is crucial to the viability of the Bosnian Serb sub-state envisaged in the US plan, but there is still no accord on exactly how much land the Bosnian Serbs should have around Brcko.

One problem rarely addressed in public by US officials concerns the ambition of some Bosnian Croats to jettison the Muslim-Croat alliance in favour of a *de facto* union with Croatia itself.

The complete collapse of the Serb position in the Knin Krajina of Croatia, and in western Bosnia, has meant that there are tempting possibilities for the Bosnian Croats to reduce co-operation with the Muslims and form a united front with Zagreb. This would probably not mean a formal Croatian annexation of Bosnian Croat territory, but it could doom the Muslim-led central Bosnian government in Sarajevo to paralysis.

Welcome though the ceasefire may be, it points to a peace settlement that penalises the Muslims without fully satisfying the Serbs and Croats. If it is the



Body count: Croatian pathologists set about the grisly task of exhuming the bodies of 50 Croatians killed in the town of Petrinja, south of Zagreb in September 1991

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France upset

over Britain's Bosnia move

MICHAEL SHERIDAN Diplomatic Editor

The Government was yesterday involved in an embarrassing clash of views with France after the Foreign Secretary, Mal-colm Rifkind, told the Conservative Party Conference that Britain would host an important

peace conference on Bosnia.

A few hours after Mr
Rifkind's speech, the French
foreign ministry reacted to the idea with such coolness that diplomats believed France had not given its agreement before he made the announcement. British officials strongly denied that that Foreign Secretary had jumped the gun on a senous matter of foreign policy in

order to cut an authoritative figure before the party audience. There was, however, no explanation for the public divergence between two allies who have worked closely together in diplomatic and military policy

towards the former Yugoslavia. Mr Rifkind said in his speech t Blackpool on Tuesday that Britain would host a Peace Implementation Conference in London which "will follow the proximity talks announced by President Clinton last week." British officials said it would

precede the final conference in Paris to seal a peace treaty between the warring factions in the former Yugoslavia. The Foreign Office expected the the conference to take place at the end of November or early

But late on Tuesday night the French foreign ministry, the Quai D'Orsay, said Mr Rifkind's conference "must be considered as a follow up" to the talks in the US and the Paris

such a conference to discuss practical issues of troop de-



Malcoim Rifkind: He may

ployment and reconstruction.

the ministry said. In an aside that will touch sensitive nerves in the British government, the French added that the conference "could take place in the framework of the consultations already under way between the members of the European Union, at the common suggestion of France and Germany."

Yesterday British officials hastily conceded that "timetables were very flexible" and pointed out that the unpredictable nature of the Bosnian peace negotiations made it impossible to set a date for either conference in Paris or London,

They emphasised that there is agreement among the key countries involved in Bosnia on the need for a meeting to resolve outstanding issues likely

to arise after the peace talks. Mr Rifkind said Nato and the Russians would need to talk about the role, size and duration of the new Peace Implementation Force. International France had "no objection in institutions would be brought in principle" to the British idea of to discuss humanitarian requirements and the cost of post-war reconstruction.

Power of publicity gets Eldin his visa EMMA DALY

Sarajevo

The power of bad publicity should sweep Eldin Isovic, 13, from the Bosnian hospital bed in which he lies to Britain for treatment for the injuries he suffered while playing with a grenade. He is blind and has pitifully thin stumps where his hands were and needs reconstructive surgery to his eye sockets as soon as possible, plus the prosthetic hands, physiotherapy and rehabilitation that might ease his burden, The doctors stood ready, the

money was there, but Eldin was caught in the British visa trap. The Government insists that Bosnians apply for entry visas at the British Embassy in Zagreb; perhaps coincidentally, it makes denying asylum to Bosni-ans that much easier, since applicants are already in a third country. Eldin and his father, Esad, could not travel to Zagreb and the embassy in Sarajevo does not issue visas.

But yesterday Eldin and another child, Jadranka Zelenovic. both scheduled for evacuation under a UN-sponsored programme run by Child Advocacy international, were granted exceptional visa waivers by London. As it happens, Eldin's case was aired on BBC Radio Four's Today programme yesterday and the Sun planned a follow-up campaign. Then came the change of heart.

"I'm told it was at ministerial level that the decision was made," said Dr Michael Plunkett of Child Advocacy. "My response is Thank you - and what do we do about the next child we meet that has the same need for treatment?" His agency has seven other Sarajevan children approved by the UN for evacuation to Britain, not all war-wounded, but all in need of specialist treatment unheard of in war-time Bosnia that would significantly improve their quality of life. And all without the means to get a British visa,

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EU demands France come clean on N-tests

SARAH HELM

Risking a head-on clash with Paris, the European Commission last night stepped up pressure on Jacques Chirac, the French President, to halt nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

Amid threats from the European Parliament to sack the Commission if it failed to act, Jacques Santer told the parlia-

President - had voted yesterday to invoke its powers under the Euratom Treaty by sending a letter to the French government demanding more information on health and safety measures.

Under article 34 of the Enratom Treaty, the Commission has the responsibility to protect the population of member decision yesterday could lead to an action before the European states in case of "a particularly Court of Justice in which France dangerous experiment". It is unment in Strasbourg that the derstood that France has been could be held liable for failing to protect people in the area of

Santer confirmed that the Comthat Mr Santer's announcement might simply be a new ploy mission had been denied crucial data from the French govern-ment on the affects of the tesis to buy time. To stave off an immediate confrontation with Mr on geological strata, and that a Commission team had been denied access to key sites. In theory the Commission's

Chirac. Mr Santer said the Commission would not take a final view on legal action until all the information from Paris had been assessed at a further meeting in Strasbourg on 23 October, when, said Mr Santer, "the Commission will adopt an opinion in line with the article".

given five days to respond. Mr the tests. But there were fears The Commission was left in no ed that Mr Santer keep his vow, doubt last night as to the likely response from the European Parliament, should it reduce its pressure on the French government, or dodge a decision to take France to court if all the information is not provided.

Addressing the parliament yesterday, Pauline Green, leader of the Socialists, denounced the French tests as "unacceptable, unwarranted and colonialist". She demand- ances from Mr Santer that the

made when he assumed office in January, to maintain the principle of openness. "The credibility of the Commission is on the line," said Mrs Green, who also challenged Mr Santer to come clean about any private agreement he may have with Mr Chirac not to invoke the Eu-

ratom Treaty. Last week it was

revealed that the French gov-

ernment believed it had assur-

Commission would not take it to court over the tests. As he addressed the parlia-

ment Mr Santer was clearly aware of the high political stakes involved. Outside the building Greenpeace demonstrators massed, rolling out a dummy bomb. Throughout the week the two French members of the 20-member Commission have been fiercely lobbying in Brussels to prevent the sending of yesterday's letter. However, applies to the tests.

the drive to pressure the French has won the support of commissioners from Germany, Austria, Italy and Scandinavia, Neii Kinnock, the British Transport Commissioner, also supported the action.

There was no immediate response from Paris, but the next few days are certain to bring a strong rearguard action from the French, who still question whether the Euratom Treaty

Photograph: Yannis Behrakis

Italy's caretaker PM sets out bold vision for political stability

It was the moment of truth that Italy had been anticipating for weeks. On Tuesday night, at the end of a five-day trip to the United States, Lamberto Dini addressed a Washington think-tank and outlined the kinds of things he might like to do if parliament asked him to stay in office once he had completed his temporary mandate.

'Í was not, and am not, a career politician," the Prime Minister insisted. But the content of his proposals to the Council of Foreign Relations told a very different story. He laid out a seven-point plan for reform intended to revolutionise the way politics is conducted in Italy and bring real stability to the country for the first time since the

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Yesterday, as he planced at the Italian newspaper headlines on his way home, it must have been clear that a politician is exactly what he has become. Commentators who have long forecast a political epiphany for Mr Dini excitedly discussed his chances of finding parliamentary support for his programme, and speculated that the general elections initially expected some time before the end of this year might yet be put off until late 1996 or 1997.

Among Mr Dini's proposals were a new electoral law, abolishing the last traces of proportional representation in favour of a pure first-past-thepost system, a redefinition of the roles of the two houses of parliament, greater regional autonomy and an increase in the power of the Prime Minister to control his own cabinet.

All these issues have been widely discussed over the past few months, but no political party has so far produced an overall programme matching the coherence of the Prime Minister's. Yesterday both left and right were forced to concede broad agreement with Mr Dini's aims, although there were signs of discomfort at being upstaged. The centre-left cader Romano Prodi wondered

parliamentary support for his proposals, while conservatives such as the far-right leader Gianfranco Fini said the country needed elections before con-

sidering such weighty issues. In theory, Mr Dini is due to resign in a few weeks once the final plank of his original mandate - a new set of rules on political access to the media - is in place. It will then be up to President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro to reappoint him, appoint someone else or call new elections. The notion of Mr Dini stay-

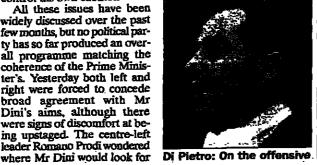
ing on is not new, but until now it had been assumed that he would merely maintain his nonpolitical caretaker role to see out Italy's term as president of the EU in the first half of next year.

The signs have been building nevertheless of a growing involvement with the nuts and bolts of party politics. His 1996 budget, unveiled last month, bore clear signs of compro-mise with the left-wing parties which have been supporting him in parliament.

At the same time, the leadership of each of the main political coalitions has been thrown into question. On the centre-left, there are fears that Mr Prodi is not tough or telegenic enough to be an effective candidate. On the right, the former prime minister Silvio Berniscoili fises de on trial on charges of tax fraud and might prefer to allow someone else to run in his place.

Among the names being mentioned as possible replacements are Mr Dini himself. and Antonio Di Pietro, the popular former anti-corruption magistrate. Mr Di Pietro launched a series of broadsides this week against Mr Berfusconi in a clear attempt to displace him in the affections of conservative voters. He has vet to make a clear declaration of political intent, however.

For the past year, Italy has been caught in an awkward paradox without new elections it cannot achieve political stability, but the country needs political stability in order to conduct effective elections. Mr Dini has seen a way of beating the paradox: it remains to be seen if he will be allowed to do so.



Up in arms: A Greek shippard worker attacks riot police at the Ministry of Merchant Marine in Piraeus during a protest at a repair yard closure Juppé avoids prosecution

STEPHEN JESSEL

aris averted a major literich political crisis vesterday by recommending to the Justice Ministry that the Prime Minister. Alain Juppé, should not face a formal investigation into allegations that he abused a former official position to allocate himself a flat owned by the city. But the chief prosecutor,

Bruno Cotte, made it clear that Mr Juppé was open to charges that he had abused his position and that the decision not to proceed with the case was conditional on Mr Juppé vacating the apartment, situated in the rue Jacob in central Paris, by the end of the year. Mr Juppé had already made it known that he would be moving. His son, Laurent, who also rented a cityowned flat at below-market rates, will move as well. The allegations relate to Mr

Juppé's time as a deputy mavor of Paris, from 1989 to 1993, when he was responsible for fimies said, included control over its private stock of apartments. The decision not to proceed, with the case, even though the

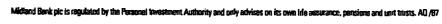
evidence showed that Mr Juppé, despite earlier denials, had been intimately involved in the allocation of city-owned flats, the fixing of rents and approval of renairs (in his own case costing about £130,000), will end an embarrassing and damaging

If Mr Cotte had decided to press ahead with an investigation by a magistrate, Mr Juppé The prosecuting authorities in would almost certainly have en obliged to resign. His de parture would have created a serious crisis for President Jacques Chirac, who was Mayor when Mr Juppé was in not to prosecute comes at time when Mr Juppé is unpopular and his economic policies are

under fire. He had no immediate comment on the decision. The French franc jumped to 3.49 against the German mark, however, after falling to 3.51 earlier amid rumours that the Prime Minister had resigned or been arrested. Bonds also recovered but stocks fell on fears a Juppé resignation might lead to a rethat has kept French interest rates high.

The property affair, first revealed by the satirical weekly Le Canard Enchaîné, drew to attention the existence of a stock of flats owned by the city of Paris ential and their friends and families at very low rents.

News of the prosecutor's decision came as observers were assessing the impact of Tuesday's strike by public sector workers, judged to have at-tracted the highest level of support for such action for more than a decade. Leaders of the seven unions involved are to what further action to take.







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Bugging scandal topples Estonia coalition

Central Europe Correspondent

The Estonian government collapsed yesterday in the wake of a bugging scandal that has conjured up chilling reminders of

the country's KGB past. Tit Vahi, the Prime Minister. announced the effective dissolution of the governing coalition after firing his deputy, Edgar Savisaar, the man at the centre of the scandal.

Last night, Mr Vahi was set to meet President Lennart Meri and other leading politicians in an effort to resolve the crisis, the biggest since the Baltic state al election. Mr Savisaar, whose

regained its independence from Moscow in 1991. The President has promised there will be no

The bugging allegations sur-faced earlier this month when police raided the Tallinn headquarters of a private security firm believed to have dealines with the city's underworld. To their astonishment, the investigators found tapes of recorded private conversations between Mr Vahi, Mr Savisaar and other leading politicians and busi-

Centre Party ultimately teamed up in government with Mr Vahi's Coalition Party and the Rural Union, came under imemerged that the owner of the security firm had been one of his closest advisers.

The allegations caused uproar and demands for Mr Savisaar's removal which, ironically, were stepped up after an assistant to Mr Savisaar claimed that she had ordered the buggings without his knowledge. body fell for that one," said an

Mr Savisaar, who yesterday announced that he was stepping

Interior Minister and leader of his party, served as prime minister from 1990 to 1992. He held mediate suspicion when it a junior post in the old Communist administration, but in the late 1980s became a cofounder of the Estonian Popular Front, which spearheaded the country's drive for independence. Even then critics accused him of bending the law to

suit his own political ends. With the old centre-left governing coalition in tatters, Mr Vahi was said last night to be exploring the possibility of a new alliance. Few favoured the prospect of a fresh poll.

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Blackpool backlash: Nationalist speech on defence angers many and is at odds with Britain's plans for European security

Services enraged by Portillo's EU tirade

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Michael Portillo's anti-European tirade at the Conservative Party Conference on Tuesday outraged members of the armed forces as well as oppo-sition and European politicians.

Ministry of Defence sources said that they were highly embarrassed by the speech, which was not released to them in advance. "If we could have stopped him, we would have," one MoD source said.

But there is irony in the affair. In spite of Mr Portillo's speech, in which he railed against the control of British forces by "Brussels", Britain has been in the lead in developing a common European defence

The armed forces were livid at what one senior officer described as the "prostitution" of their reputation in search of short-term political gain, a gam-

was likely to backfire.

Mr Portillo referred to the British Special Air Service, the SAS, as striking "a chill down the spine of the enemy", a reference which caused particular offence, as Mr Portillo was seen as hijacking a reputation earned by others. He even ended his speech with the SAS mot-to, "Who dares, wins".

"He might as well have been wearing a pair of Union Jack boxer shorts", another senior officer said.

Mr Portillo said that Britain would not allow Brussels - by which he apparently meant the European Union rather than Nato - to control its defence policy, and added that "British soldiers, sailors and airmen are willing to give their lives for Britain, not for Brussels".

Yet there has never been a suggestion that the supranational institutions of the EU would be involved in military



Offensive weapon: German members of the Eurocorps, the multinational European defence body, parading in Paris

decision-making. Mr Portillo's speech was irrelevant to Britain's position on European

Britain has been part of Nato since 1949, and has committed thousands of soldiers to action on behalf of the United Nations,

in the Gulf in 1991, and since 1992 in Bosnia. But although Britain is playing a leading role in establishing a European de-fence mechanism, there is no chance that the result will be a

Britain's policy on European

which are members both of defence issues was set out on 1 March. The Government launched proposals for treat-Nato (16 countries) and of the EU (15 countries). ment at next year's European

The British proposals involved strengthening the WEU, but not making defence policy Union Inter-Governmental Conference, and for a parallel review within the Western Eusubservient to the EU. They ropean Union, 10 countries of covered only crisis manage-

ment, peace-keeping, sanctions and humanitarian aid. They did not cover full-scale war, including "peace enforcement", which would remain a preserve of Nato, with US in-



recognises that although Nato would probably be involved in. any large-scale military operations, such as the deploym a peace-implementation force to Bosnia, we should not overstrain that commitment by expecting them to intervene in all European security operations ... there may be circumstances where European nations will need to be ready to take the

lead, or to act on their own." The Government's policy, set out in its March memorandum and in the last defence White Paper, is that it would be "wasteful to develop separate, wholly European military structures. Europe should capitalise on the foundation that has

been built in Nato". The White Paper stresses that European defence structures should "encourage and allow flexibility rather than trying to impose undue conformity showing awareness of the need to avoid situations of the kind imagined by Mr Portillo, when olvement. he said that cap badges might The Government's policy be controlled by Brussels.

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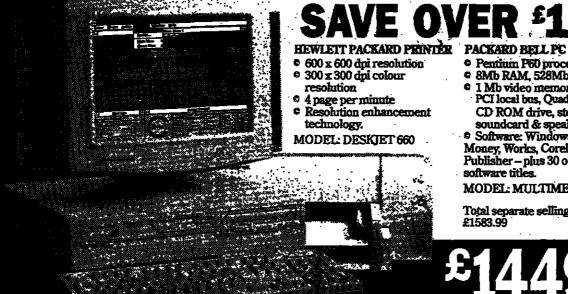
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Where Portillo is coming from

We will not allow Brussels to control our defence policy Britain will not be tald when to light and when not to light Britain is blessed with very brave soldiers, sallors and airmen willing to give their lives. For Britain, Not for

This is what President of the European Commission, Jacques Santer called "tilting at windmills" - a problem Jacques Santes, called "titing at windrills" – a problem that is not there, and a grotesque this representation of the true picture. By Brassels, Mr Portille meens the European Union and the idea that the subrapidonal EU institutions would have any direct country subjects British armed forces is using writing it is not just the first is counter to British policy as service that the specific of any EU body.

British has led the very with new black or any EU body.

British has led the very with new black or now to botter European security is fact that fit Portilo chose to ignore in bis secent, it has proposed that Furope should shoulder his speech. It has proposed that Europe should shoulder more of the responsibility for its own security – and the

rest of Europe seems to agree.

Although Nato — with North American involvement — would be involved to a seem seems to be circumstances when European countries will need to be ready to take the lead, or to act on their own. But Britain will letain command of its own forces, though their actions would be co-ordinated with others through the Western European Union, British troops remain under command of British officers and the British government at all times.

Planet Portillo

* Imagine: the European Commission might want to harmonise uniforms and cap badges. Or even to metricate them. The European Court would probably want to stop our men fighting for more than 40 hours a week. They would send half of them home on paternity leave."

et Earth

if Mr Portillo had ever served in the armed forces, he would know that they, along with their Nato allies, have been using the metric system for decades. The armed forces are exempt from the other legislation he describes. as they are from every provision of the EU's founding

We taught the Bosnian Serb generals that the staughter of civilians will not go unpunished".

Planet Earth Up to a point. For most of Britain's three years in Bosnia, it has avoided direct action to save Bosnian civilians, and strendards avoided intervening on one side or the other. Atthough troops have been robust in their interpretation of the rules of engagement, they have been under orders to defend themselves, not local civilians. Until the recent Nato anstrikes, massacres in Srebrenica and Gorazde went unpunished.

set Portific

Around the world three letters send a chill down the spine of the enemy: SAS. And those letters spell out a clear message: don't mess with Britain."

Planet Earth

This statement caused fury in the armed forces yesterday. Many asked whether it was statesmanlike to call on the blood, sweat and bravery of others as propaganda at a party conference.

Planet Portillo

"Next week, I shall announce a new strike force drawn from the three services, capable of rapid and long-range deployment".

Planet Earth

Malcolm Rifidind, the former Secretary of State for Defence, announced the formation of a "Joint Rapid Deployment force" on 14 July 1994. This comprises 3 Commando Brigade; 5 Airborne Brigade and 24 Airmobile Brigade. There is nothing new about this force: as Mr Rifkind said: "We shall be looking at how we can develop the capabilities of these forces to enable them to intervene even more effectively and speedily together."

Planet Portillo

Two recent orders underline that resolve (to give the armed forces the best equipment]: Apache Attack hell-copters ... and Tomahawk cruise missiles, a weapon so accurate that it can be launched from a submarine 1,000 miles away and guided down a single chimney..."

of Earth

On 19 September the White House confirmed that Britain was buying 65 cruise missiles. The Ministry of Defence never confirmed the order - perhaps Mr Portillo wanted to keep the news for the party conference. But can the Tomahawis be guided down a single chimney? Their accuracy is six metres – they'll probably hit the right house, sure, but down the chimney? Unlikely, However, that is more accurate than Mr Portillo can claim to be.

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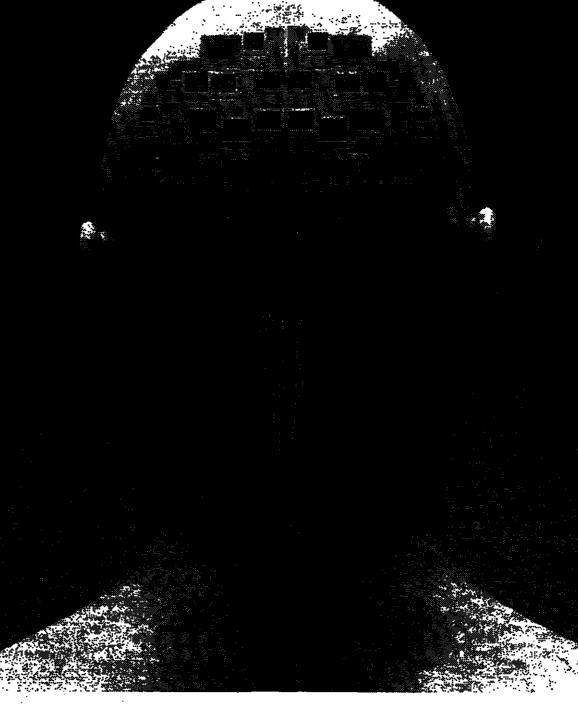
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international

Gulf maids in slavery to a reign of terror



Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent, details the rape, torture and contempt suffered by foreign servants at the hands of their employers

A glance through the archives of the Gulf newspapers is enough to show you what Filipina and Sri Lankan maids suffer at the hands of their Arab employers - quite apart from the judicial lashings so many receive from "Islamic" courts.

Beaten, burnt and sexually assaulted, they turn up in their dozens each year at their embassies in Riyadh, Kuwait City and Abu Dhabi to plead for sanctuary from their tormentors and a free passage home. One Arab Gulf state had to charter airliners to take home Indian and Filipina maids after they complained of rape and beat-ings by their employers.

Many employers defend their the maids - generally hired for bassy in Abu Dhabi after her

low wages - steal, torment children, commit "immoral" activities, or desert their jobs.

Last June, a Filipina maid, Nelfa Baltar, secured the conviction of her Egyptian employers in Abu Dhabi after she had been burned with cigarettes on her hands and face and with a lighted match below her eyes. The police arrested her sponsor, Ayman Mansour, when he tried to deport her through the airport in the emirate of Sharjah; immigration officers found that the girl's face had been beaten so badly that they could not recognise her in her passport photograph.

In March 1994, Felixberta Pasco, a 32-year-old Filipina treatment by contending that housemaid, fled to her emspeaking English and accepting employer beat her on her back

and face, and cut her arms. Two months later, a 28-year-old Asian housemaid in Dubai slashed her wrists in a suicide attempt after a local man tried to rape her. A day after that, po-lice in Abu Dhabi used a crane to rescue Nora Saburnido, a 35year-old housemaid, from an upper window after she was heard screaming in a locked room at her employer's home. They found she had been burned on both arms with an electric iron, knifed in the left arm and beaten on the right eye.

In Saudi Arabia, Western sign a statement in Arabic employees have reported to which she did not understand. employees have reported to human rights groups the systematic harassment of Asian housemaids by sponsors and by members of the *muttawa*: the ruthless religious police who are being given ever wider powers to arrest and molest women. One report recounts how in 1993 a Filipina nurse who spoke casually to a male acquaintance in a Riyadh?

restaurant was arrested by the muttawa, held for two days in prison and then ordered to



It was a confession of prostitution. In July of the same year, she was taken to a Saudi prison. and lashed 40 times by a male prison officer in the presence of laughing muttawa officials.

Inside the Malaz prison in Saudi Arabia, a Western nurse.

- falsely accused of trying to "seduce" US soldiers on the streets of Riyadh – found almost 100 women from the Philippines and Sri Lanka. Their bunks were infested with lice, and the women were sometimes left for hours in total darkness. "We heard some pitful sugges,"
the pursue wrote to the human
rights group which tooking his
case. "Many of the prisons who
were taped or otherwise abused."

by [Saudi] employers; if they at-. tempted to run away or became pregnant, they were jailed and. sometimes lashed." These terrible cases have

been occurring for at least five years. In November 1992, a Sri Lankan housemaid fled to her embassy in Abu Dhabi after a local housewife had heated a

Battered maid tells of five-month orde Housema Filipina maid of beating I was beaten and burned, says maid Jail for Filipina maid's tormentors

pers carry regular reports of the abuse of servants complained that she was raped And then, in a lower voice and

knife on a gas cooker and time on a gas cooker and burned her on the neck, body and arms for breaking a plate. She had been whipped by the historial of the family when she demanded to leave, pulled in the chest by the wife for lapses in her work and decisaraps from the kitchen in the same to the chest by the wife for lapses in her work and leaves are the transit a Master Estate and

by her employer while his wife was having a baby, then slapped and beaten by the wife for allegedly seducing the husband. In the last six months of 1992, four maids tried to commit suicide in the United Arab Emirates alone.

Why do so many Filipinas and Sri Lankans suffer so dreadfully at the hands of Gulf Arab employers? One need only read what the Gulf Arabs think of them. Take, for example, last year's study by the Dubai Police Research and Studies Centre which accused foreign housemaids of theft, torture of children, immorality and desertion. Referring to maids as "walking time bombs", the report claimed that 39.2 per cent were thieves, 35.3 per cent were cruel to children and 22.5 per cent "committed immoral

activities". Sixty-six out of 120 local housewives were the victims of crime by the maids, the report concluded. It stated that one maid had set fire to a two-yearold child, that another had put a baby in a refrigerator to stop it crying, that a third had put a baby in a washing machine in an attempt to kill it.

"You shouldn't take such a Christian - such a Western point of view about these women," a friend of an Islamic court judge told me in Sharjah. "These maids will get fair treatment if journalists don't exaggerate the trials - if you don't make this into a political circus."

with a venom that destroyed everything he had said, the man explained himself. "Filipinos as a people are very emotional, they are big liars. They try to extract pity. They are never to be trusted. When it comes to crime - 70 per cent of

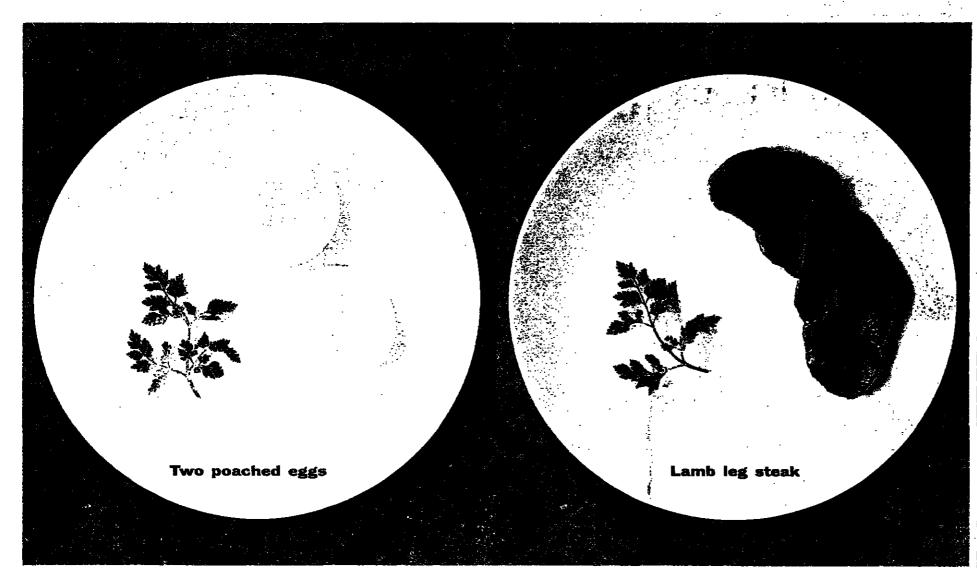
them are guilty." So why, I wondered, do the Gulf Arabs employ well over one and a half million Filipinos? "Because they are clean and because they speak English and can educate Gulf children," he replied matter-offactly. What he did not choose to address were the hundreds thousands, in the view of human rights groups - of housemaids who are raped and sexually abused in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

What is one to make, for instance, of the Sri Lankan maid who had been sexually molested by her Saudi employer six months ago and, put on board an aircraft home at Dubai airport, spent the journey cringe-

ing in her seat and weeping? Or the even more dreadful case of the housemaid who had been so badly raped by a Saudi that, boarding the Emirates Airlines plane home at Dubai, she cowered beneath one of the aircraft scats and screamed every time she saw a

male passenger? The European air crew decided she was too mentally disturbed to fly and, with great reluctance, off-boarded her before the plane took off.

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Blood money may avert execution for Filipina

Abu Dhabi (Reuter) — The son al-Ain for the premeditated of a man killed by Sarah Bal- murder of Almas Mohammed dropping his demand for her execution if the girl's family asks him to show mercy. "If the parents come and ask me to drop the death sentence, maybe I will consider it and the famiy would discuss it," Faraj al-Baloushi said. "I would consider changing it. We would discuss

the request between us."
His remarks were the first sign that the Baloushi family might be willing to soften its stand since an Islamic court last month condemned Balabagan

resterday he would consider ic law, Baloushi's family has the option to maintain the death sentence or to accept blood money instead. Balabagan said she stabbed Baloushi 34 times after wresting his knife away during what she said was rape.

Faraj al-Baloushi has rejected previous overtures aimed at saving Balabagan's life and insisted that she should face execution. But officials in the United Arab Emirates have said they would again try to persuade the family to drop their demand for the death sentence to death in the oasis city of in exchange for blood money.

IN BRIEF

Patten promises curb on foreign workers Hong Kong — The Governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten, has extended an olive branch to the colony's first fully elected legislature by promising to curb the import of foreign workers from next year. Relations with China, which takes over Hong Kong in mid-1997, took a back seat to domestic issues in the Governor's two-hour annual policy address.

Mr Patten proposed a new labour scheme, to start on I January 1996, that would allow for a maximum of 5,000 foreigners employed under the programme to be working in the colony at any one time, compared with 25,000 now.

Reuter

Indonesian gangs go on rampage

Dili, East Timor — The East Timorese Governor. Abilio Soares, has urged Indonesia's security forces to restore order after gangs of youths rampaged through the capital in the worst unrest in the territory this year. Residents said that youths armed with knives. bamboo sticks and stones continued to gather in several places around the city, after two days of violence, but said that there had been no reports of any further clashes since early

White rule draws its last breath

Cape Town - South Africa's parliament is holding a two-day special session to put back on track local government elections which will wipe away the last vestiges of white rule. The 1 November elections, the first all-race local polls since apartheid was imposed in 1948, were put in jeopardy by a Constitutional Court ruling last month which overturned the proclamations by President Nelson Mandela which set up various electoral mechanisms. In four days of talks, ending late on Tuesday, legislators thrashed out a rescue package which shifts crucial powers from the province to the central government.

Japan apologises for HIV blood supply

Tokyo — The Japanese government has formally apologised to haemophiliaes who contracted the HIV virus from imported blood products, six years after patients first filed suit against drug firms and the government. It said that delayed government measures had increased the number of victims, 91 of whom have already died after developing Aids.

No ducking the issue for radio ham

Canberra — An Australian man has been fined 2.(NX) Australian dollars (£990) for quacking like a duck on his radio transmitter, a court official in the Tasmanian town of Launceston said. Don Desmond Davey, 57, was convicted on Tuesday for broadcasting something that was not speech, the official said. Davey pleaded guilty to 16 charges over the operation and possession of unlicensed radio communications equipment, and was also ordered to hand over his radio.

Saddam's germ war plan sparks UN fury

MICHAEL SHERIDAN Diplomatic Editor

seeks just

Iraq is certain to face indefinite United Nations sanctions after a devastating report yesterday revealed it may still be holding enough biological weapons to kill the world's population several time over.

The head of the UN Special Commission, Rolf Ekeus, told the Security Council that President Saddam Hussein's regime had concealed vast amounts of data on its chemical, biological and nuclear programmes for years after the Gulf war of 1991.

The new information only came to light after the defection to Jordan in August of President Saddam's son-in-law, Hussein Kamal Hassan, head of Iraq's military industrial complex.

The revelations are likely to put an end to pressure from Russia and France to ease UN sanctions on Iraq when the issue next comes up for consideration around 15 November.

"Iraq had made a formal but essentially false declaration of its biological weapons," Mr Ekeus said.

The extent of Baghdad's biological weapons programme had not hitherto been made available to the Security Council. It is understood to include the discovery that Iraqi scientists made 10 times as much anthrax virus than they had declared to UN weapons inspectors. They also were researching botulism, which causes paralysis, and alfatoxin, a carcinogen which triggers

kidney and liver failure. Among other biological compounds in the Iraqi arsenal were ricin, which damages the lungs, and enterovirus, a cause of blindness and haemorrhage. Mr Ekeus told the Security

Council that there was no proof that Iraq had destroyed any of

these weapons.

The US ambassador to the UN, Madeleine Albright, has described the new findings as "chilling". A British official said they showed that "the Iraqis have made a nonsense" of previous UN efforts to investigate their non-conventional weapons.

The new information about Iraq's weapons programmes will change the climate in the UN Security Council over the future of UN sanctions on the country. There is evidence that sanctions are causing intense suffering to ordinary Iraqis. A senior UN official recently said a generation of children was at risk from malnutrition.

The US and Britain, the toughest advocates of continued sanctions, say President Saddam has refused to take advantage of a UN resolution allowing limited oil sales to provide funds for humanitarian needs. In private, many Arab governments favour keeping sanctions to maintain pressure on the Baghdad regime and encourage its eventual demise.

In another sign of instability within the regime, Iraqi opposition activists have announced the defection to Britain of an official who was President Saddam's head of protocol.

But there will be embarrassment for Britain and other European countries in future revelations about the involvement of Western businesses in supplying Iraq with resources for chemical research. A Bedford company, Oxoid, is to be sued by US armed forces personnel who allege the company negligently sold Iraq up to 18 tons of special "growth media" chemicals.



A Baghdad van driver displaying pictures of President Saddam in advance of a presidential referendum on 15 November, the first since 1958

Tidal wave of crime sweeps Iraq

head of the Department of Antiquities in Baghdad.

Said said he has neither the men

all. Outside his office Range

and cannot be replaced.

There are 10,000 archaeo-

PÁTRICK COCKBURN Baghdad

Early this summer Khader al-Douri, former president of Baghdad University, returned home one afternoon in his large Japanese-made saloon car. A gang of car thieves which specialised in expensive vehicles was waiting for him, and shot him dead.

Douri's killers were caught and their trial shown on television, but car theft is so common in Iraq that the police rarely bother follow it up. The United Nations in Baghdad has had four vehicles stolen in the past year, mostly at gimpoint. Many drivers believe the best insur-

ance against losing cars is to hire street gangs to guard them.
Iraq used to have little crune.

Punishments were heavy, and during the oil boom it was easy to make money. But the UN embargo on the sale of oil since 1990 means 4 million are now close to starvation, and the rest live from hand to mouth. Even the amputation of the thieves' hands is no deterrent.

Crime is not only violent but highly organised. In June armed men broke into a museum at Assur, the ancient Assyrian capital in northern Iraq. After overpowering three guards they stole 168 objects, including large statues.
"I can do very little to stop"

"Thieves killed a guard at the museum in Nassariya in the south," he said. "So I have given orders for our men to shoot back in future."

There are no published figures on the crime rate. Abdul Kader al-Janabi, a member of the Nakonal Assembly, said: ment officials are not allowed to resign but are often paid the

and hunger. Many gangs were punished and the stealing of cars is going down." Mr Janabi said logical sites in Iraq and Dr UN sanctions, not the Iraqi government, is to blame for the

nor the vehicles to defend them crime wave. Few believe the government Rovers sit immobilised on tyres has got violence under control. that went flat a long time ago An example is the sudden popularity of guard dogs. Every Friday huge mastiffs go on sale in the part of the Shurjah market that used to deal in pets.

Violent crime is only one aspect of the breakdown of society under the impact of sanctions and hyper-inflation. Bribery is pervasive. Govern-

them," said Dr Moaid Said, any war because of poverty equivalent of \$5 a month. One university professor told how he spent two years trying to resign and only succeeded this summer after bribing hospital doctors "to say I have a serious heart condition". His pension is worth

> Another sign of the disaster facing the educated élite is the book market in the Soug al-Sarrai. Every few yards intellectuals are selling old volumes. A copy of Plutarch's Lives fetches less than 10p. One seller said he is giving up all his books to buy food, with the exception of his favourite, Dostoyevsky. Another said that whatever happened he would never sell the works of James Joyce.

about 50p a month.

Sony senses a market in ESP

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

After persuading the world to retreat into the private universe of the Walkman, Sony is going one step further: it has disclosed that it is branching out into the paranormal. The Japanese corporation, the leading innovator in consumer electronics, admits it is researching into alternative medicine, spoon-bending, X-ray vision, telepathy and other forms of extra-sensory perception (ESP).

The Sony "Institute of Wisdom" was founded in 1989 at the instigation of the company's founder, Masaharu Ibuka, and Akio Morita, its charismatic former chairman. The company believes it has proved the existence of ESP, and is considering the possibility of machines that would enable us to communicate telepathically - the Sony Spookman, as it is

likely to be known. "Mr Ibuka and Mr Morita have long felt that there's more to science and technology than what is repeatable, universal and objective," a spokeswoman said. Some people have the ability to perceive beyond the five senses. This research is intended to investigate how this happens and why."

A sub-division of the Insti-tute, Extra-Sensory Perception Excitation Research (Esper), has worked with more than 100 possessors of ESP. Subjects were presented with two black plastic containers, one of them containing platinum, the other empty. Psychic individuals were able to "see" the platinum seven times out of 10. Much of the research focuses on the mysterious spiritual energy known as ki, which forms the basis of a great deal of traditional

oriental medicine. The company has already devised one product, the Pulse Graph, based on a prototype developed by a South Korean holistic doctor. It is claimed to have a 20 to 30 per cent successrate in diagnosing diseases such as liver cancer.

Rebel attacks the cer

tim McGirk Islamabad

Taliban, the Islamic student militia, fought its way closer to Kabul yesterday, capturing several strategic positions in the hills outside the battered

Afghan capital.
The Taliban students are no longer armed only with the Koran. Supported by tanks, artillery and renegade fighter-pilots flying MiGs, they have spread Islamic rule over the southern half of the war-weary country. They have vowed to lay siege to Kabul, if President Burhanuddin Rabbani does not

step down. Foreign aid agencies in Kabul say the Taliban has seized two key positions, Charasiab and the Kaldabad hills, over the past two days. These new Taliban outposts are only 12 miles south of Kabul, enabling the militia to strike the capital with rockets, a fate Kabul's citizens have endured several times over the past three years of fighting between government forces and rebels.

After pin-pointing the Tal-iban's new strongholds with reconnaissance flights two days ago, the government struck back yesterday with a barrage of rockets on the attackers. An aid worker said: "It sounded like a thousand rockets were fired into the hills south of Kabul." The Taliban is advancing along the southern route from Mohamed Agha, but will soon run into a ring of artillery and tank defences around Kabul.

"So far, Kabul's been quiet. No rockets have fallen on the city yet, but it sounds like there's pienty of fighting outside, and it's getting closer," a relief worker said. Residents of the shattered city have rarely experienced a month without rocket attacks, so the Taliban's advance has not yet caused panic. "It's probably safer if people remain in Kabul, at least until they know who controls the surrounding countryside," the relief worker added.



Rabbani: has ringed Kabul with defences

The assault is the Taliban's second on Kabul. The militia was within a few miles of the capital last spring, but was routed by government forces under the acting defence minister, Ahmed Shah Masood. The odds have shifted since then. Although the Taliban earlier refused to deal with any of the warring regional commanders who have splintered the coun-

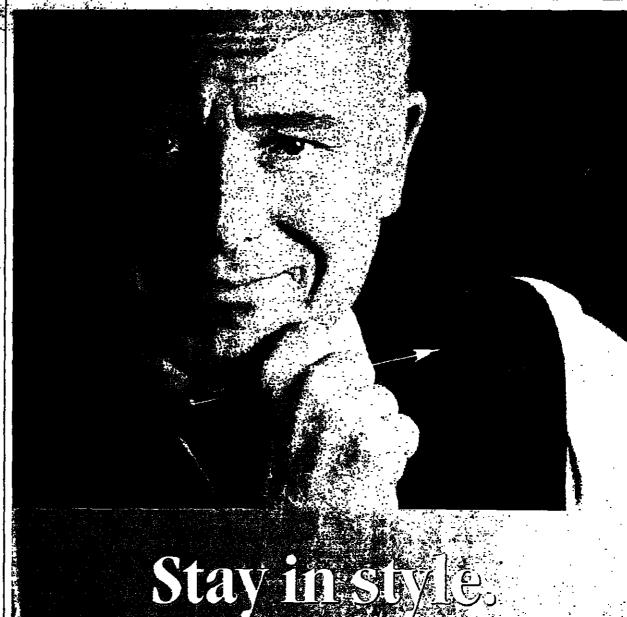
"All that is needed for the triumph

of evil is that good men do nothing." Edmund Burke.

try following the defeat of the pro-Soviet regime in 1992, the islamic string at now have pacts with all Mr Rahbani's enemies, including and Communist general, Rashid Dostum. From his fortress headquarters near the northern Uzbek border, General Dostum reportedly is ready to hurl his Russian-made fighter planes into the Taliban siege of Kabul.

The government also accus es Pakistan of supplying the Taliban with military advisers and weapons. Pakistan wants to open a trade route through Afghanistan into the new Central Asian republics.

On 5 September the Taliban overran the eastern city of Herat, held by a Rabbani ally. Her at's warlord paid his militiamen only £3 a month, and they surrendered rather than fight the Taliban. Kabul may not fall so fast.Government troops are better paid, loyal and heavily armed. Past experience shows they have no qualms about fir-ing on Koran-wielding warriors





on't just sit there. It would be nice if everyone who agreed with Edmund Burke's noble sentiment actually

did something about it. Join Amnesty and you can help prisoners of conscience - people who are imprisoned for their colour, sex, race, ethnic group, language, politics or | religion - who have neither used or advocated violence.

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WEEK 15 - 22 OCTOBER



Hungry children in a Nigerian slum, but life is 'not too bad'

You can catch a glimpse of the siums from the motorways that bisect Lagos: clustered at the edge of a lagoon or spreading like a stain over waste ground, thousands of shacks with rusty roofs. But you do not really know what the slums are like until you are among the houses, a Nigerian friend said as we

I was invited to Amukoko by Sister Patricia Hoey, a petite Irish missionary nun who has been working in Nigeria for three decades. For the past few years she has been running a health clinic in the heart of Amukoko, which is built on reclaimed marshland.

An estimated one million people live in Amukoko. They are among the poorest in Lagos, but are not the worst off: they have homes, some have jobs, they even have a couple of broken-down schools.

When it rains, the canals and open drains overflow. The smell of sewage around the Medical Missionaries of Mary compound was strong but the nuns said they only noticed it when it got really hot. "These people wouldn't live here if they had anywhere else to go," said Sister Patricia. "They come from every state in Nigeria and every country in West Africa. There's a dozen to a small room. not much of what you'd call 'social cohesion'. They're drawn by cause my husband has a job with support him. In fact, all these

LAGOS DAYS

the prospect of work and more are coming all the time." It would make more sense if I were to meet some of the residents, she suggested. Yemi Akintimehin, a 33-year-old health worker who grew up here, would take me along on one of her home visits to a slum where people walked in mud.

the roads were strewn with

refuse and there were waist-high

piles of rubbish.

a shipping company," said Mrs Nwokocha. "I take the kids to the nuns every morning for a meal. We eat again in the evening when my husband

Here is how their money 2,000 naira a month (£16) Rent is 500 naira a month. So there is 1,500 naira for food, transport, medicines and other necessities. Mrs Nwokocha says she is hap-

'Sex is a commodity here', said the Irish nun. 'They sell their bodies to get their kids through school'

Josephine Nwokocha, the object of the visit, lives in a room with her husband and six children. Under the same roof, on either side of a dank corridor which runs the length of a typical single-storey boarding house, are 21 other families. They share a single latrine. But the Nwokochas consider themselves lucky: some families live

"Things aren't too bad be-

pier here than in her village in

south-east Nigeria.
All of her children are under six. She has a set of twins. I learnt later that she probably had to leave her village as twins are considered evil, unnatural, and their mothers are often cast out for witchcraft.

"This child", said Ms Akin-timehin, pointing to the baby at Mrs Nwokocha's breast, "is not well and his legs are too thin to

kids are malnourished." The situation should improve, howev-er, when Mrs Nwokocha gets the market stall she has long coveted. She has been accepted into a scheme run by the nuns to set up women in petty trading: old clothes, bottles or simple foodstuffs. She will have

to pay rent for her pitch. We make our way through the smoke-filled corridor works out: Mr Nwokocha earns some families are cooking on charcoal stoves - and into the mire of the street. Ms Akin-timehin points out the local sights: a school with no windows and 9,000 pupils and, next door, the Sambot Hotel, which is a

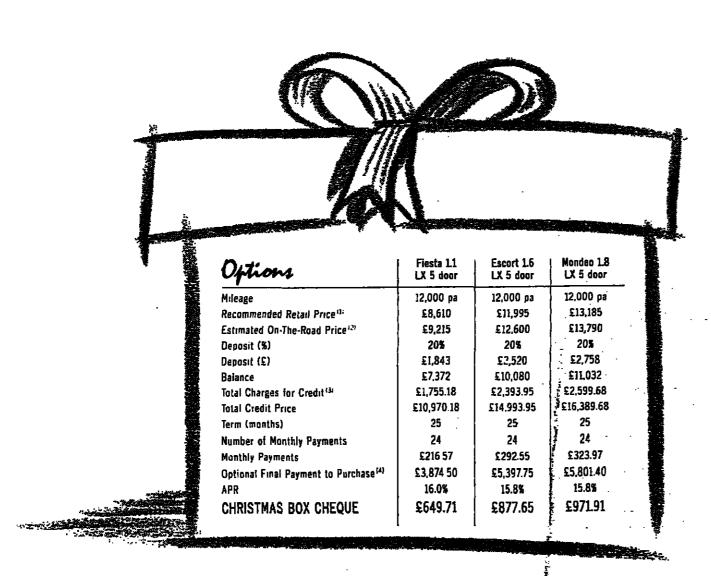
"Like everything else here, sex is a commodity", said Sister Patricia "There's lots of prostitution. Sometimes you couldn't call it that. They sell their bod-ies to get kids through school."

The nuns - two Nigerian and two Irish - run a leadership course which deals with every thing from inter-personal to community relations. They try to encourage basic social analysis: why are the streets so filthy, how come no one makes an effort to clean them, why is there no civic spirit?

Does it improve things? Not much, they reply with a smile ... not much.



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Washington rally could stir radical black revival

Next week's Million Man March of black males is causing apprehension among whites has not given black staff the day Americans. One result, however, seems sure: a much bigger role in the country's fraught civil rights debate for the march's prime organiser, Louis Farakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam and *de facto* leader of the radical black movement.

Only a humiliatingly low turnout stands between Mr Farrakhan and success. But even if to its declared goal of "atonethe march fails to live precisely up to its name, charter plane ant protest, birth of a new black and bus bookings across the country suggest it may top the 250,000 who took part in Dr Martin Luther King's celebrat-ed March on Washington in 1963 - and possibly the estimated 600,000 who attended the biggest anti-Vietnam War rally here in November 1969.

But the question which dominates the uneasy run-up to Monday's big event is another; whether the Farrakhan on show will be the militant of old, best known for snarling rhetoric, frequent anti-Semitism, and thinly veiled contempt for women's and gay rights - or a leader capable of channelling black America's grievances and

frustrations to productive ends. Hence the ambivalence about the occasion, from the White House down. President Bill Clinton has no quarrel with many of Mr Farrakhan's goals: to tackle black America's crime, drugs and broken families head-on. The problem lies with the messenger, as Mike McCurry, the President's spokesman made brutally clear, describing some of Mr Farrakhan's past statements as "bordering on the

Pointedly, the White House off to attend. And as Washington city officials braced for a day of massive disruption, aides yesterday let it be known that Mr Clinton plans a major speech on frayed US race relations very soon, perhaps at a long-scheduled appearance in Dallas on Monday itself.

And imponderables abound: Will the march remain faithful ment", or will it turn into a gimilitancy in the image of Mr Farrakhan? What will be the chemistry with the OJ Simpson affair? And, not least, who will attend?

One person who definitely will not be there is General Colin Powell, author and possible presidential candidate, who has pleaded previously scheduled engagements to promote his book. But his absence is hardly surprising; in political terms Mr Powell counts as a white, as a remarkable poll this week underlined. Among whites, Gen-eral Powell leads Mr Clinton 54-37 in a theoretical presidential contest. Among blacks,

Mr Clinton wins 68-25. Given the media frenzy that would ensue, speculation that the freshly acquitted OJ will show up seems excessive. More plausible is the presence of his chief defence attorney, Johnnie Cochran, the new hero of black America, who was wont to arrive at court in Los Angeles recently surrounded by Nation of Islam bodyguards.

King 'stole \$350,000 in Lloyds' fraud'

DAVID USBORNE New York

Don King, the controversial promoter of heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson, is expected to take the stand in a New York court today to answer allegations that he stole \$350,000 from Lloyds of London in a oogus insurance claim.

Prosecutors have charged Mr King with nine counts of insurance fraud arising from a 1991 fight featuring super lightweight champion, Julio Cesar Chavez. that was cancelled after the boxer injured his nose in training, Each count carries a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a fine of \$250,000.

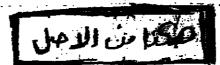
Mr King is accused of padding his claim to Lloyds with an additional \$350,000 in losses which prosecutors say were never actually incurred. US attorney Paul Gardephe said "this number was simply made up by

Specifically, Mr King is accused of doctoring the original contract documents signed with Lloyds to insert a rider pur-



in court: Don King, the US boxing promoter

porting that Chavez was paid the \$350,000 in the run-up to the fight, a high-winnings bout against Harold Brazier in Las Vegas, as a "non-refundable" training fee. The prosecution has promised Chavez will tell the court that he never actually received any such payment. Mr King was paid a lotal of \$671,000 for the loss of the match. His defence has rejected the allegations and says that in any event the promoter had no responsibility for the day-today financial running of his



Chris Woodhead, Her

inspector of schools

A vision of the curriculum

and a real personal sense

of appropriate standards.

The strength of personality

and interpersonal skills

needed to engage with

standards. The drive to

improvement and a sense

Louise Woolcock, first

female joint head of

They need to be aware

that their students are

extra-curricular activities.

approachable and should

be good at promoting

the school to present

and prospective parents.

A good headteacher has

school at Rugby

under pressures of

academic work and

They should be

David Blunkett,

secretary

parent.

King's School,

Worcester

unexpected.

shadow education

the skills of a leader,

understanding of the

feelings of an angry

Dr John Moore, head of

The ability to listen. To

take decisions and to

cope with the totally

combined with an

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teachers in raising

of humour.

Majesty's chief

Gillian Shephard has announced a new qualification for headteachers. Fran Abrams and Judith Judd examine a vital role

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Start date; 1 January 1996.

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ol. Dolton Road, Millbury

There is a word that aspiring headteachers of the Nineties should hold in their minds and repeat like a mantra

in the interview room: vision. The first question will be: "What do you want to do for this school?" The required answer begins: "My vision for Grindthorpe High ...' In the old days, a head-

teacher was like a despot sometimes enlightened, sometimes not - in a small, independent state. Nowadays he sometimes she, but usually not is more like a football manager. Charisma, authority, even evangelism are essential quali-ties in the modern head. But if the school begins to slip down the league table, then his neck will be on the block.

Yesterday Gillian Shephard put the role of the headteacher at the centre of her education policy. A good head, she said, was the key to a successful school, and professional recognition would do much to raise standards in schools. Her plan for headteacher qualifications has won praise from across the political spectrum - not least from Labour, which announced an identical scheme four months ago.

But why is a head's role so important? As Mrs Shephard said, no enterprise can succeed without leadership, and research has shown time and time again that it is vital in education. A good headteacher inspires and motivates staff and pupils while keeping a firm eye on the school's ultimate goal: raising standards. School inspectors have found a strong link between failing schools and weak leadership.

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The Government has already launched Headlamp, a scheme under which new heads are given £2,500 to spend on the training of their choice. They may learn financial management, crisis management and the management of change, the curriculum and pastoral matters.

Such training has been on offer for 20 years but it has been patchy. Heads have attended courses at management centres and those organised by the Industrial Society. Some have

management abilities. Armed with these skills, new recruits must return to school to win over their staff. A prime example of vision and charisma going awry was set by Michael Clark, employed to improve Wandsworth's failing Battersea Technology College. Nothing if not evangelical, he departed in January after alienating staff by suggesting that they were either for him or against him.

The successful head will set an example to the school. Above all, he or she must be able to focus strongly on what matters most: on standards of teaching support.

What makes a good headteacher?

Fay Weldon, author She or he has to be a goed manager - a chief executive rather than a leader. Headteachers have had to do so much form filling and paperwork. She or he should be someone children look up to and respect who can teach them the ways of the world. A good headleacher

is a good person!

Mary Warnock, former mistress of Girton College, Cambridge & Good judgement. The shouldn't do anything he shouldn't do anything he silly Liking one's pepissis very important. My table as headteacher was known in the liked my pupils very most in the liked my pupils very mistrice. liked my pupils very repeti-and oldin Tilke the other members of staff at all 1 think one has to be very clear-headed and cool.

Will Carling, England rugby captain and consultant The ability to let each

individual under his/her charge flourish. That means teachers and pupils.

David Smith, head of Bradford Grammar School: He has got to like children more than anything. Their subject in Let everybody also falk altern cytospic leastership and marragement.

The second second 本化。1996年1978年 第一次十二

and learning. Five years ago it would have been unusual for a head to spend time watching staff work, but inspections and appraisals have changed that. Now the classroom door is never really closed. But being a headteacher is

not just about leading - it is also about inspiring. Here another fashionable word comes into play: empowerment. The best headteachers make their staff feel that they can have ideas of their own and that if they take calculated risks they will receive

cally

Rosanne Randle: head of Dame Alice Harpur School, Bedford

Vision. But it's no longer about inspirational leadership, Team :leadership is what

A personal touch is important - something, according to Professor Michael Barber of London's Institute of Education, that women heads display more than men. One head he met sent a card to every former member of staff on their first day in a new job, saying: "Good luck and thanks for everything

you did for us." People remember that kind of thing - it really matters," he

Being a head is not only about cards, however. There will be hard decisions to make. Tony Mooney, head of Rutlish, John Major's old school)

Patience, sense of humour and an understanding of ... people. They must keep up are his greatest resource. to date in developments in . Who is good at listening teaching and must talk to teachers and encourage them in what they're doing. He or she must be

al friend.

While the leachers will mutter in the staff room about one of their number who is lazy and incompetent, they will unite against the head who tries to have him or her replaced.

The first year or so will fly by in a whirl of new initiatives. While these will be in place by the second year, few improvements may yet be visible. This is the time when a good head-teacher keeps faith, and constantly tells the rest of the school: "It will work. Give it time." It would be a very strong head, not to say a foolish one, who never

Peter Hullah, head of Chetham's School of Music, Manchester

Someone who likes people and realises they and understanding that people learn from their mistakes,

had doubts. But the key to suc-

The staff will not be the only

ones whose spirits need bol-

stering from time to time. In

1993 the Government gave

school governors the role and

they now play a much bigger

school than they used to. While

some heads can wrap their gov-

ernors round their fingers, oth-

ers have more trouble. The

Secondary Heads Association

takes about six calls a day from

headteachers worried about

cess is never to show them.

Raiph Uliman, head of

Someone with a clear

Wellingborough College

sense of direction who is

good at persuading other

people that the things you

want them to do are the

things they want to do.

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An expe

erning body. Heads today must perform a delicate balancing act at all times between the demands of staff, pupils, parents and gov-ernors. The demands of their duties of employers, and hence spouses and children will generally take fifth and sixth place part in the running of the in their attentions - the job usaally begins at around 7.45am and continues until nine or 10 at night, when the governors' meeting, parents' evening or school play finishes.

And although many headteachers talk of the occasional

joys the job brings - the success of an initially unpromising

their relations with their govpupil, the school production which goes without a hitch more dwell upon its stresses and strains. Most heads now are appointed in their late thirties or early forties, and an increasing number are taking early retirement in their fifties on health grounds. Some of those who go are victims of "football manager syndrome", people's tendency to seek a scapegoat when things go wrong, but many have genuinely fallen ill through

So what can we do to make sure that good headteachers ge: even better? How can we give bad heads the kick-start they need to improve!

Yes, Mrs Shephard's courses will help aspiring heads to take advantage of training, but the profession is divided about them. While all welcome the principle that would-be headshould be better trained, some warn of the danger of expecting certificates from all. Governors could be fulled into a false sense of security, believing that any candidate with the qualification is fit to be a head some say. But others believe is will be a starting point: without it, a deputy head will not ever start down the rocky road to successful headship.

But the crunch time for many heads comes six or sever. years after taking up a post. By this time the impetus of those first new initiatives has begur to slacken, and the flow or ideas may be becoming a little sluggish. Professor Barber suggests sabbaticals, which could allow them to refresh their ideas and to take a breather

from the daily grind in school Ofsted, the schools inspection body, is already offering primary school headteachers the chance to spend a year or attachment to its teams of inspectors. This is certainly one way in which a head can pick up new ideas and judge his or her school's performance against that of others, although there are questions to be raised about whether it does anything for the quality of school inspections.

Another new initiative being mooted in London could also help. A group of heads is planning to set up an English versior of the Principal Center at Harvard, in the United States, where heads can meet, take in-service courses and discuss the latest issues. Such networks could form a useful service: headshir can be a lonely business.

While Labour and the Conservatives want training for heads. Labour also wants to provide more back-up. Under Labour, "super-teachers" would have leadership skills but would also provide an example of excellence in the staff room. And with better train ernors, the post of the head

could become less arduous. But there is a harder fact that most new heads must face: some of them will fail. And for those who do not recognise their own unsuitability and leave, there must be mechanisms to ease the passage out of office.

As one American commentator put it recently: "Ten years ago if I had a vision they would have locked me up. Now I can't get a job without one." Nor, in the brave new educational world of the Nineties, would be be able to keep one.

Diary

JOHN WALSH

"This bewitching multimedia experience," is how Virgin Records describes the new CD-rom version of the Rolling Stones' Voodoo Lounge album, available soon. And it's true, up to a point. This clever device lets you imagine you're in the computerised corridors of a Louisiana mansion, wandering through a dozen marmoreal rooms whose wall-paintings burst into wandering infough a cozen matricolear fooms wants war paintings burst into life at the click of a mouse, wandering past a couple of dozen tableaux vivants of grooving "scenesters" and young women in ill-fitting frocks, while tracks from the million-selling album play to suitably recherché bits of video.

You can choose which room to visit, from a special chart like a Cluedo

board. And when you've finished weighing up the merits of "Billiard Room" and "Dining Room", your eye eventually falls on "Ladies" Room". Surely, you think to yourself, they can't be so gross as to ...? But you click on it anyway, and discover that you are indeed in a pristine, World of Interiors women's lavabo, where Mick Jagger can be found by the sink instructing a freezing beauty about the importance of wearing warm clothing. Beyond him there are three cubicles with their doors shut. Surely they can't be made to spring open, to disclose Jerry Hall sitting ... You try it, anyway. Two of the doors, when clicked on, emit shricks of female laughter. The third simply unfurls a loo-roll on which are written the lyrics of Keith Richards's song, "The Worst". Taste, it seems, is not quite dead, even among elderly rockers.



Hall: not in these cubicles

Fashion accessory of the week was the rakishly dented homburg worn by the novelist Walter Mosley at the party thrown for him (and his new book of criminal lowlife, RI's Dream) at Vogue House in London on Monday night. Co-hosted by GQ magazine, it was the week's hot ticket. Nick Cave, the cadaverous British singer to be found romancing Kylie Minogue on the upper slopes of the nation's pop charts, was given a brisk lesson in crime literature by m'colleague Vicky Ward. (Typically, she recommended Wilkie Collins's The Moonstone, 1868.) A brace of

heavyweight Yanks' agents, Ed Victor and Abner Stein, prowled about like off-duty assassins. A charabanc-tour of lovelies from the Smithy's giamour agency flicked their hair and prevailed upon the sleepy-eyed but gamely seductive Mr Mosley to sign their copies of his book. GQ's popular editor-elect, Angus McKinnon, reminisced about his ebullient and shockingly maligned predecessor, Michael VerMeulen, while a gatecrashing suit from the rival Esquire complained loudly about the iniquity of McKinnon's appointment, failing to mention that he had himself

applied for the job.

The evening's most remarkable sight was that of Mr Mosley's companion, a New York performance poet called Stormy Webber (possibly not her real name), a vision in combat boots, nose-ring and half-shaved, halfdreadlocked barnet. Some way into the party, she subsided to the floor with crashed-out, Baudelairean elegance and deflected all attempts to raise her by the words, "It's OK - I am highly elastic". The only sight to mar the proceedings was that of a chap from the buying department of

Pipeline, the book-distribution company, who wandered in wearing an anorak. It was, need I say, the only anorak to have passed through the portals of Vogue House in many a ong year. Pashion writers fainted Style advisers turned pale. But all attempts to divest him of this unspeakable garment were thwarted.
"My Tshirt," he explained to Condé Nast's fragrant (and agnast) promotions diva, "is covered in rude

Far be it from me to speak ill of the dead, but the obituaries of Lord Home of the Hirsel seem to have left out a detail or two. "If he had any enemies, or even a detractor, they would be extremely hard to find," wrote Lord Whitelaw in these pages. Not all that far, it seems. Readers of Anthony Sampson's Anatomy of Britain Now may recall what a rough ride Sir Alec (as he then was) was given by parliamentarians and ex-FO colleagues invited to contribute to the book, published in 1965, a year after Home had lost the general election to Harold Wilson. Sampson recalls the shock to cabinet colleagues when Sir Alec became PM and quotes one minister as saying: "It will put the Tory party back by 20 years. His views on Africa are semi-Portuguese." Sampson himself recalls the great man's "embarrassing clichés about Africans never having discovered the wheel". But of course political memories can be very selective. Tuesday's Daily Mirror, for instance, spoke in hushed tones about "the last of the great Toxy gentiemen" and praised his "quiet dignity". This wouldn't be the same Mirror, would it,

Hell Hath No Fury Dept The publication in November of Philip Hoare's biography of Noël Coward has prompted the unusual spectacle of a skeleton demanding to be let out of the cupboard. A writer called Michael Thornton wrote on Monday to Gay Times, to say that he is widely known

which greeted his rise to Foreign

Secretary, in 1960, as "the most

reckless political appointment since

the Emperor Caligula made his horse a consul" ...?



Coward: a serious omission?

to be Coward's last lover and that he is appalled by the lack of recognition of this interesting fact. "Why ... is there complete silence over this affair," he demands to know, "and not a single reference to Thornton in Philip Hoare's new biography of Coward? . Have the lawyers been at work, or is the gentleman concerned overcome by sudden shyness?" For a biographer to leave out his subject's dernier bonquette is clearly a serious omission. Over to Philip Hoare: "My God, how boring my book would have been if I'd trolled out all the Thorntons of this world. Noël had numerous brief encounters. It's sad that what was probably a one-night stand for Noël, week, should be a lifetime's esentment for poor Mr Thornton." An early contender for the title of

one he probably forgot the following Most Emetic Invention of the Autumn is the "Singing Santa", which will shortly be appearing in a department store near you. This rebarbative device is powered by a voice-andmusic silicon chip which is activated by anyone walking past it. According to Neil Sutton, a columnist on the excellent Electrical Review, who has clapped eyes on the prototype, the Singing Santa resembles "a twinkleeyed, simpering, elderly pederast" and bursts into a few cheerful bars of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" when anyone goes by. I foresee an imprecedented number of courts delivering verdicts of justifiable homicide ("The cause of death, m'Ind, was a blow from a piece of flying plaster") come January.



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Let the children sing and squawk

A nyone who has ever stopped to chat to an American or Australian tourist will agree that they are generally more articulate than their fellow English speakers, the Brits. But there is a big difference between promoting confident oral performance and suffocating regional accents with the Queen's English. Yesterday the Education secretary, Gillian Shephard, announced a Campaign for the Better Use of the English Language which sadly sounded more like the latter than the former.

It will be incredibly difficult to award a grade for spoken English in a GCSE while still accommodating regional accents and variations in spoken grammar. And even if the examiners are experts in a particu-lar local dialect, how will they cope with the Tynesider who moved to East London at the age of eight, or the Liverpudlian whose parents come from Devon? There is good reason for children learning to read and write a standard English, but that should not stop them using in conversa-tion the beautiful and various words, phrases and grammatical structures that have persisted in different parts of the country over the centuries. Teach them to speak in a particular way, and you will inevitably undermine that rich diversity.

Quite apart from the sacrilege of trying to standardise a conversational language, there is a serious problem about which regional accent is branded as "official". As always it will be the Queen's English - a particular London variation of the English of the Middle Ages that just happened to become the dialect of the upper classes. So the children of the Home Counties' middle classes will not find it too difficult to adapt their speaking habits, while their cockney and scouse class-mates will be at

Mrs Shephard is absolutely right that communication "by grunt" or by fluster or stammer or mutter or any other such manifestation of the nervous Brit is just not good enough. But the British oral problem is not one of grammar, it is one of confidence and practice. The advantage the Americans have is not that they are taught a strict spoken grammar, nor that they have regional accents drummed out of them; it is that the whole of their culture teaches them to speak out and keep talking, while their British counterparts are expected to be seen and not heard. Compare the "show and tell" scenes in American school films or Snoopy cartoons with the "what I did on my holiday" essays that English children rarely even get to read aloud.

The same is true of teaching British children foreign languages. Having learnt countless rules of grammar and written vocabulary, they pass their GCSEs still too inhibited to chat in French or German.

Not so their European counterparts.

The Campaign for Better Use of the English Language is being chaired by the news reader Trevor MacDonald. Surely Vanessa Felz, the daytime chat show host, would be a better role model? We should be looking to encourage people to express themselves and communicate with confidence, not to read clearly from an autocue.

Mrs Shephard should abandon any plan to test spoken English in the GCSE. It would inevitably become a test either of elo-cution or bravado. Making children selfconscious about the phrases or the intonation they use would only inhibit them further. Instead, they should be encouraged to talk in front of their classmates. Less Henry Higgins elocution lessons, and more Eliza Doolittle singing and squawking with confidence in her native cockney.



For the thousands of anxious couples struggling to negotiate the complicated procedures of in-vitro fertilisation, yesterday's Patient's Guide published by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority will be very welcome. But the statistical league table of clinics that accompanies the guide should carry a

health warning.
In-vitro fertilisation is generally the last resort for desperate couples who have tried every other means to have a child. Few would-be parents are medical experts and they are almost bound to be baffled by the battery of medical explanations and treatments that are offered them. Then there's the problem of where to go: the worry that the clinic down the road with the shorter waiting lists and lower prices may not be as good as the hospital in the city 50 miles away. The success rate in terms of babies per IVF treatment varies from nil to 20 per cent depending on which clinic you go to. The Patient's Guide is a welcome aid to help couples through the confusion.

But if information is to help couples or to provide an incentive for bad clinics to improve then it cannot be misleading. And that is where the HFEA report fails. It gives a figure for the "live birth rate" - the number of births for every treatment attempted - for every hospital. It supposedly takes into account both differences among the women treated and the fertility problems that are tackled in each clinic. If one hospital specialises in prechance of getting pregnant than their younger counterparts, the hospital success rate will be adjusted to take that into

There are three main problems. First, the number of patients treated in onethird of the clinics is simply too small to be statistically meaningful. The Chiltern Fertility Unit, for example, only treated 40 couples. Second, the fact that in such a fast-moving area patients depend on tables that are already two years old (the latest figures are for 1993) must render them of limited value. Finally, it is virtually impossible to include every important difference between hospital treatments, especially as the better clinics are constantly innovating. Certain forms of genetic screening of embryos, for example, reduce the chance of a successful pregnancy because some of the embryos have to be destroyed. On the other hand, they do increase the chance of bearing a healthy child. It would not be sensible if hospitals felt pressured to give up genetic screening in order to boost their "live birth rate" and so their position in the league table.

To be fair to the HFEA, it does say clearly that the league tables should not be used as the only guide to choosing a fertility treatment centre. But when infor-mation is so powerful and so vital to those dependent on it, the purveyors of the facts and figures have an even greater responsibility. Publishing the information is a good idea, but the comparisons need to be handled with considerable caution.

dominantly older women who have less

ANOTHER VIEW Michael Horovitz

Poetry's enter-prize culture

Big money awards for poetry competi-tions have proliferated in recent years. So has the hard-selling of poetry books and of spurious "new generations" by means of megahype banalities such as "poetry is the new rock n'roll". The brash lies of moncyspeak, like the careerist incentives of the (so-called) enterprise (so-called) culture

jingle against the grain of the sullen art. Today is National Poetry Day, and tonight the winners of one of the biggest set of money awards, the Forward Poetry Prizes, will be announced. Meanwhile, carefully nurtured poetry lists are axed

overnight: profit-fixated marketing rules. Most competitions print the amounts of their money prizes in much bigger and bolder type than anything else, to entice large numbers of fortune-hunters, as opposed to the smaller numbers likely to be trying to write honest-to-goodness

poetry for its own sake. Poetry is not the new rock'n'roll. Poetry preceded and infused the blues, gospel and folk music and still infuses the best rock. punk and rap. Exactly 30 years ago, before pop concerts hit bingo, a co-operative of 16 beat, jazz and sound poets headed by Allen Ginsberg filled London's Albert Hall to overflowing. Without this continuum of poetic voices and visions, Ginsberg's disciple Bob Dylan would never have reclaimed folksong from the shadows or shouted lines like: "While money doesn't talk, it swears/obscenity who really cares/

propaganda all is phoney." Money prizes are directed at the bigtime and the headlines, whereas art and literature are news that stays news because of the intrinsic richness of their forms and content. The danger is that national poetry prizes and days will reinforce empty monetarism and narrow little Englandism. As official literary administrations seem ever more careerist, materialistic and insular, the Royal Albert Hall is being restored as a Temple of the Muses. Next Monday sees the "Return of the Reforgotten" (Ginsberg, Zephaniah, Sorley MacLean, Brendan Kennelly, Anne Waldman et al). And on 7 July next year we'll celebrate the

"First International Poetry Day". Keats thought poems should grow "as naturally as the leaves to a tree", not as credits to a CV. In 1990 Sir Geoffrey Howe said: "Every time you sing Jerusalem", with its dark satanic mills clouding the green and pleasant land, you are reinforcing an anti-manufacturing prejudice". Not a prejudice - just a commitment to the planet and to the integrity of inner directions

that's every true poet's birthright. The beautiful truths of Keats and Blake long outlive the corruptions and destructions manufactured by the likes of Thatcher and Howe. Let's put the overblown dreams and fabrications of Loadsamoney aside and look again to the harder incentives of Jerusalem-building to fulfil human and imaginative potential, worldwide: from each according to their ability, to each according to their need.

The writer is author of Wordsounds & Sightlines: New & Selected Poems', Sinclair-Stevenson, £6.99.



Recruiting Young Conservatives

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Howarth's accurate assessment | Good opportunities for black Britons

From The Rt Rev Edward

Holland Sir: Can the Government not understand that many of us share Alan Howarth's unhappiness with present policies? We do not want the tax cuts but, rather, wish to see taxes used well to strengthen the health service, education, investment in business, and the reduction of unemployment.

The Government underestimates us when it offers us the carrot of cuts in taxation. We are concerned for the health of our country and the future and wish to see the infrastructure strength-

ened and improved. Anyone can see the effect on schools, hospitals, those in need of care, even prisons, the armed forces and the arts. And the Lottery cannot be the answer to all these problems! Many of us increased taxation if the money were well used. Yours faithfully,

†EDWARD HOLLAND (Bishop of Colchester) Colchester, Essex 10 October

From Dr Peter South Sir: Andrew Marr asserts ("Must Major drown in dirty blue water?", 10 October) that "it is hard to argue that Major is a harsh, punitive, indecent or immoral politician as compared with Margaret Thatcher, whom Howarth happily supported". However, Margaret Thatcher, powerful leader that she was, had to push her radical policies against the arguments of a vocal and articulate array of moderates such as Howe, Hurd, Clarke and the two Pattens, who were less easily scuttled than the aptly

although a decent man, is up against a formidable group of right-wingers, such as Portillo, Redwood, Lilley and the loyal, respectable Howard, who are fully conscious of their relative power. He is the nice lad who is impressionable and has fallen in with the wrong crowd.

named "wets". In comparison, John Major,

Verdicts on the legal profession

From Mr Nicholas Draycott Sir: In your letters section "Balancing solicitors' needs and clients' rights" (9 October) Martin Mears, the new Law Society president, is berated for his angry response to the Which? report about poor legal advice.

For all his obvious faults, Mr Mears should at least be given credit for unashamedly adm that the function of the Law Society is (and in truth always has views are paraded as being "in Representation Unit. the public interest".

tion that the legal profession rected, when the reality is somecould be prevailed upon toundertake some free world exposes Blair as a naive sentimentalist and raises doubts about his judgement and common

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS DRAYCOTT Sydenham, Oxfordshire

This, perhaps, was the true comparison Alan Howarth had to make before deciding to leave the party in which he had served as Yours truly. PETER SOUTH

Frittenden, Kent 10 October From Mr Robin Alexander

Sir: I find the description of John Major by Andrew Marr and other commentators as a "decent man" incomprehensible. He is answerable for, inter alia, the vicious job-seeker's allowance, the cut in income support help for mortgage payers and the consequent increase in homelessness, the anti-democratic Criminal Justice Act, the Asylum and Immigration Bill, the sackings of hundreds of teachers, the planned closure of would be glad to see a policy of Bart's hospital - the oldest public hospital in the world - and the general wrecking of parts of the NHS. The list of the depravities perpetrated by his ministers for which he must take ultimate responsibility is endless. Some decency. Yours faithfully,

ROBIN ALEXANDER London, WC1 10 October

From Mr Simon James Sir: So, Alan Howarth, MP, until recently a member of the far right No Turning Back group, has joined the Labour Party, saying his views have not changed. Does this not show that a "new" Labour government would just be an old Tory one? Yours faithfully, SIMON JAMES London, SW17 10 October

From Mr Antony Boase Sir. Waking up to the early morning news on my radio alarm, l could have sworn I heard that Michael Howard had defected to the Labour Party. If only. Yours sincerely, ANTONY BOASE Woodditton, Cambridgeshire

8 October

From Ms Nicola Jayne Enston Sir. It is admirable that certain eminent barristers are prepared to undertake work for no fee in response to Tony Blair's plea for lawyers to improve citizens' access to justice. Unfortunately, legal aid is scarce and it is likely to become something of a rarity if the proposals contained in the Green Paper Legal Aid - Target-

ing Need are implemented. Nevertheless, it is unfair to expect lawyers to resolve the problems of inadequate government funding, by urging them freely to donate their profesbeen) to uphold and protect sional services. It should not be solicitors' interests. This refresh- forgotten that many experienced ing honesty should obviate those and inexperienced barristers nauseatingly hypocritical debates dalready undertake pro bono work between the Law Society and the con a regular basis throughout Bar, where diametrically opposed a organisations such as the Free

It is time that misconceptions Equally, given this pragmatic! about lawyers being afficent, approach, Tony Blair's assump : extravagant and selfish were corwhat different.

It will be interesting to see if doctors and surgeons are approached in the same way and asked to treat patients on a pro bono basis to improve access to health care. Yours sincerely. NICOLA JAYNE ENSTON

Colwyn Bay, Clwyd

From Mr Geoffrey Perret Sir: The admiration you rightly feel for General Colin Powell

appears stronger than your grasp of social and racial realities ("Far from the promised land", 10 October). It is a myth that social october). It is a myth that social mobility is sluggish in this country and buoyant in the US. The rate of social mobility, is the changes in socio-economic status of one generation of people when compared with their parents' has been approximately 30 per cent in nearly all developed countries, including Britain and the US, since before the Second World War

Moreover, the US now has, eccording to the OECD, the smallest middle class, as a proportion of the total population, of any developed nation. This reflects the fact that just 1 per cent of Americans own 40 per cent of the wealth. Britain's top 1 per cent, by way of comparison, owns 18 per cent of the national wealth. On current trends, the US could end up a generation from now with a socio-economic profile more closely resembling that of a Third World nation than anything most people associate

with an industrialised country. Nor can I share your enthusiasm for Clarence Thomas. Millions of Americans believe he perjured himself to get on to the Supreme Court. The circumarrived with nothing but ability and a commitment to public service, only to conclude his career in the House of Lords and as a

appointment, including George Bush's ludicrous claim that he

was "the best qualified person in

America", combined tragedy and

farce. An example to shame the

You also forget those black immigrants who have succeeded

here, such as Lord Pitt, who

British people? Perhaps not.

widely admired member of one of the most exclusive British clubs of all, the Great and the Good. General Powell's assertion that sergeant-major was the most he could have expected to become had his parents boarded a ship heading for Southampton underestimates both his own talents and this country's. Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY PERRET Beverley, Humberside 10 October

From Mr Michael Gottlieb Sir: What point exactly are you making in your leading article? Are you saying that blacks are not in senior positions in the Army, politics or industry because of conscious and unconscious discrimination on the part of employers?

If so, you are mistaken. No doubt discrimination goes on in Britain, as it does the world over. but you seem to be implying that stances surrounding Thomas's it is on such a wholesale level as

to ensure that blacks do not even get a look-in. A number of my friends, who Proo

head up leading national and international firms, tell me that the reason why no more than a small number of blacks are in senior jobs is simply that they do not apply. The skills shortage, at senior as well as junior levels, is so acute that I cannot believe there is any other reason.

Businessmen are extremely practical people. I happen to employ one black manager, responsible for one of my restaurants with a £3.5m turnover. So what! I am effectively colourblind and would employ as many good people, regardless of their colour, as I could find. However, if they are not applying for the job I cannot go out and deliberately

As an American who has lived here since 1970, I am convinced that there are proportionately as many openings for blacks in Britain as in the US. Perhaps unconscious preconceptions prevent them from seeing the opportunities that are there for them to

The door is open, I assure you: if only they would believe it. Yours sincerely. MICHAEL GOTTLIEB

Proprietor Smollensky's Restaurants London, WC2 10 October

Identifying the fascist mentality

From Mr John Doheny Sir. Felipe Fernandez-Armesto (Essay, 9 October) is right. Fascism is too complex a monster to be amenable to hair-splitting defini-tion. Why? Partly because histori-ans habitually identify fascism with

extreme right-wing ideologies. Looked at from a purely psy-chological perspective, fascism is first and foremost a state of mind that readily adapts itself not only to the far right, but also to an endless spectrum of political and religious belief systems. including Communism, Islam

and Christianity.
Stalin, despite his Communist credentials, was a fascist dictator Armesto's defining criteria: he put the group before the indi-vidual, order before freedom, cohesion before diversity, revenge before reconciliation.

The institutionalisation of the fascist mentality marks the transition of primitive Christianity into Roman Catholicism so that

differing little from Hitler. He meets all of Felipe Fernandezretribution before compassion. the supremacy of the strong before the defence of the weak.

the persecuting popes can be lined up beside Hitler and Stalin. Khomeini likewise. He, like his

parts, was driven by what may be described as a purification compulsion. His sanitising crusade was launched to purge Islam of all who resisted the spread of his own idiosyncratic brand of Shi'ism; Stalin launched pogroms against any who might pollute his paranoid notions about the nature of Soviet Communism: the persecuting popes instigated their orgy of doctrinal cleansing by burning heretics; we don't need to be reminded how assiduously Hitler's most ardent disciples implemented his policy of

illustrious European counter-

ethnic cleansing".
The point is this: fascism will not - indeed cannot - even begin to make sense until we strip it of all political and religious connotations and begin to see it for what it initially is - a state of mind searching for an ideology. Yours sincerely, JOHN DOHENY Cult Research International London, N8 10 October

From Mr Julian Smith Sir: Felipe Fernandez-Armesto asserts in his commendable article on fascism that "exponents of the selfish gene seem to vindicate

Hitler's divine commandment, thou shalt preserve the species", as an example of how "modern science has confronted us with a nakedly amoral and aggressive natural world". While it may be true that some

scientific analyses of nature do rightly underline this ruthless, relentless process, I don't think that the scientists themselves can be blamed - unless, of course, their science is informed by fascist opinions. The "selfish gene" hypothesis of Richard Dawkins is based on the author's belief that yes, it is a cruel world, the weak will go to the wall, and the strongest will take the power, unless moral human beings take steps to prevent this. Fascism in all its forms is therefore something that proponents of the 'sellish gene', or at least its orig-mator, are implicitly and implacably opposed to.

Science and scientists are no more or less of a threat to freedom than they ever have been. Yes, scientific endeavours must be monitored and policed to avoid the occasional disaster, But scientists have yet to become the new SS. Yours faithfully,

JULIAN SMITH London, W3

Prostitution facts

From Ms Maggie O'Neill

Sir: Angela Lambert ("Keep out. This is a private view", 26 September) reports mistakenly that I believe that one man in 10 visits a prostitute". There is no reliable data in Britain to produce this kind of generalisation. When asked by Ms Lambert about clients, I did suggest that she talk to a project based in the West Midlands, where this figure had been extrapolated from numbers of contacts women had had with clients over a certain period. As a professional researcher and

sociologist, I am not in the busi-ness of believing generalisations without reliable data.

Also, I have not been "collecting information on prostitutes since 1993". However, I have been engaged in researching prostitution as a cultural practice since 1990, and I have been engaged in action research, often with women and young people who are working as prostitutes, in order to help develop policy changes. Yours sincerely, MAGGIE O'NEILL

Senior Lecturer in Sociology Staffordshire University Stoke-on-Trent

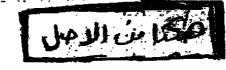
Battle of Brussels

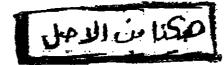
From Mr Roger Moores

Sir: Just over 51 years and a month ago, British soldiers were fighting for Brussels, I believe they were proud to be doing so. Yours sincerely. ROGER MOORES

Colchester 11 October

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@ independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.







Barry Cartiers

comment

Singing that old tax-cutting tune

Tories are good at talking about spending curbs, but rather bad at getting round to them

Alan Howarth, Labour's newest MP, is having more of an impact on Budget thinking than he may realise. With the Government's majority now dangerously slim, the balance of risk is turning in favour of a serious bout of tax cutting this year. A few coronaries, an unexpected resignation, and the 1996 pre-election Budget has gone. John Major needs to get money into voters' pockets while he still can.

Nods and winks from people round him suggest that the Prime Minister intends to say something substantial on tax and spending in his speech. But the public spending negotiations, with all the semi-public posturing and propaganda they involve every year, are still in mid-haggle. And Major cannot pre-empt his Chancellor on the details of Budget tax cuts.

His most obvious strategy would be to bind himself to a rolling programme of tax cuts, perhaps taking the basic rate itself down to 20p in three years, and promising a substantial start this autumn. An alternative would be to cut VAT on fuel, as Labour proposes - something which, judging by their applause yesterday, party activists would love.

Major himself is in ebullient private form and an act of tax-cutting conference drama has an obvious appeal. It would give him ecstatic weekend headlines in the Conservative press and, with the party more unitedly Euro-sceptical than it has ever been before, it might tilt the media verdict on the conference as a whole. The move to the right, so evident on Europe, welfare and crime, would be confirmed. The

So the bank that likes to say "yes" to its customers has said it for itself:

the TSB is being taken over by Lloyds.

enough, to write about these large

takeovers in one of three ways. There

is a financial story: the billions going

to one or other set of shareholders.

There is a human story: the hundreds.

perhaps thousands of jobs that might

be lost in what is politely called "ratio-

nalisation". And there is a public pol-

icy story: might a large merger like this result in less competition for banking services in the high street?

Nothing wrong with any of that, for all these approaches are useful in their

own way. But there is another way of

looking at this takeover that encom-

passes all three, and it starts with a

pen just out of whim. Of course, some

takeovers have little rationale and sub-

sequently unravel, but this is not a one-

off. We are seeing a whole industry

transform itself, and industries do

not put themselves through large

structural changes unless there is

There is, Several of our big service

industries, including banking, are in the early stages of a transformation

akin to that which has governed our

manufacturing industries for a gener-

ation. Until recently most of these

industries lived in a protected envir-

onment - just as, say, our car and mot-

orcycle industries lived in during the

Fifties. Banking, insurance, retailing

and telecommunications all lived, and

still live to a large extent, immune

from international competition. They

some powerful impetus to do so.

A takeover like this does not hap-

simple question: why?

Newspapers tend, reasonably

fightback would be declared to have started at Blackpool.

Yet tax cutting now would be genuinely risky, both politically and econ-omically. The markets are already showing signs of slight unease about government finances, and Major needs a cut in interest rates, too, pre-ferably during the winter. He needs credibility at a time when the money men are suspicious about the rigour

and principle of late-era Majorism.

One indication of this is a City story which argues that Howard Davies, the new deputy governor of the Bank of England, whose views on executive pay made headlines recently, is Tony Blair's preferred choice as governor. If the incumbent, Eddie George, wants to keep his job, therefore, he needs a Conservative victory. And how, the story mischievously finishes, will that affect his artifular when Kenneth affect his attitude when Kenneth Clarke suggests it is time for a loos-

ening of policy?
It is a good story, made better by the fact that Alan Greenspan at the Federal Reserve Bank in Washington, is also facing a bright, politically aware challenger, the Clinton-appointed Alan Blinder, it gives some idea about how sceptical the markets are, and how nervous of the contamination of

policy by politics. All that said, economists seem relaxed about a Clarke tax cut of anywhere between £2bn and £4bn. Yesterday's "green Budget" from the Institute of Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs argued that there was room for £2-£3bn. That might still allow for a half-point off interest rates



ANDREW MARR Columnist of the Year

also interesting. Labour has made some progress in encouraging a feeling of guilt among voters about lower taxes and poorer public services. The Conservatives' own "focus group" research shows that even Tory voters are now feeling a bit ambiguous about

In the end, though, there is such a broad base of support in the party for that old familiar tax-cutting tune that Major can be expected to sing it loudly on Friday. Though ministers had believed that the main cuts would not come for a year, their mood has changed.

It is not only the danger of an election being forced early. It is also that, if the mood of suspicion among the voters is to be dealt with, the cuts need to be made now and, if possible, repeated in 1996. "It has to be a theme, a pattern, not something that can be painted by Labour as a oneoff pre-election gimmick," one minister said.

The gamble may be hedged around with other wheezes, such as the notion of "time-bomb" tax cuts legislated in advance to cause problems for any future Labour government. Major's The political risks of tax cutting are own Huntingdon constituency party

The Lloyds takeover of TSB is evidence of the transformation sweeping service industries

Proof of the big bank theory

has a motion down for today's economic debate demanding the abolition of inheritance tax, for instance. One MP argues that this could be legislated to occur in, say, 1998.

All of which is fair enough, and much what one would expect from Conservatives with their hackles up. But there is a deeper question here for the Tories and one which only the free spirits outside government have been facing up to. For the truth is that while the party is very good at talking about cutting public spending and reducing the tax burden - consistent, clear, forceful - it is rather bad at getting round to doing it.

The share of national wealth spent by the state has wobbled up and down a little during the Eight-ies and Nineties, but it has not moved decisively; and today, the Government's declared objective to get it back down below 40 per cent regarded as optimistic even by some Treasury officials.

Tax cutting has become for the Tories what public spending has long been for Labour. It provokes instant scepticism about where the money is coming from. There is a similar unreality about the issue, a readiness to talk with relish about radical tax targets, combined with a nervous timidity whenever ministers are faced with real proposals for real cuts. This was so even under Margaret Thatcher, and it is certainly the case today.

When John Redwood launched his leadership challenge to Major in the summer, it was embarrassingly clear that even he was going for the soft option involving vague promises of efficiency savings as a way out. At the time Norman Lamont, who was campaigning for Redwood, was disquieted enough not to appear alongside him

during the press conference. Now both men are back on the conference fringe. Redwood has pro-duced more detail on his earlier package, including cuts in government advertising, urban renewal, housing and civil service jobs. Lamont, much more radically, suggested transfer-ring large parts of the social security ducing charges for health care, boosting private health insurance and cut-ting means-tested benefits for people

of working age.
This may be wild stuff, easier to say in a fringe meeting than in Whitehall. But when Lamont argues that the Conservatives are reaching the limits of credibility in regularly promising dramatic tax cuts while pulling back from the big spending controversies, he makes a strong, valid and

timely point For the days when salami-slicing budgets, selling off assets and delaying capital programmes can be presented as the core of a convincing and radical tax agenda are nearly over. Booms, oil and privatisations have delayed the arrival of the obvious; but the obvious is now slouching into the political daylight. If there is no rethinking of what the Government does, then the state's share of spending is going to remain roughly where it has been. It certainly will not fall; and nor will the tax take.

One day the Conservatives will have to face up to this. When? In opposition, surely, these are truths too big for governments to handle.

Are you goin' to read my poem?

Today is National Poetry So why not put your prose

away And spend a little bit of time Trying to communicate in rhyme!

For instance, at the breakfast Avoid, as far as you are able. Your unthinking repertoire of prose Like, "No more coffee, I

suppose?"
What's the forecast say

today?"
They think that rain is on the way Anything for me in the

post? Or "Do us another bit of

Don't be so predictable! Don't rise from bed with mind like wool, And sit there in a soggy daze. Come in brightly! Sparkle!

Tap dance a little! Wave your hands! Utter stuff that rhymes and

scans! Say: "Time to break our fast together! Time to hear the news and weather!

'Goodbye to sleepy hed and pillow -Let's brace ourselves for Mr Portillo.

As he abandons common

And hijacks the Torv conference!

"Or why not turn the radio And – avoiding Radios 2 & 1 – Go straight for dear old

Radio 3 And solve the weekly

mystery: Who's composer of the

week? Is it some modern Finn or Greek.

Whose cacophonic sounds are summoned For the ears alone of Sir John Drummond? Or is it Grieg or Arthur Bliss Or someone safer still than

You see? It's not so very To spout crude doggerel by the yard.

(It's even easier to speak in If you are willing to rehearse. In Shakespeare they do it all the time Even if blank verse doesn't

rhyme.) It lifts the spirit, cheers you

Yes, please, could you pour Of fresh ground coffee, not too strong?

After that, I must get along ...

Ah, it's nearly time for work So, as you drive through fog and murk Towards your workplace (if

you're employed)
Don't let your mind become a void!

Prepare the odd resounding Open the shutters of your

(Yes, I know that "mind" and Don't really rhyme, but now

that's fine. Rhymes that used to be out of court Are now "half-rhymes", eagerly sought.

It's all because of WH Auden. modern.

The arbiter of all things "Auden" and "modern"! Another rhyme



Considered dreadful in its time ...)

When at your workplace you arrive. Cry: "Gosh it's good to be alive!

Hot doggity, yes sirree!

Mens sana in sano corpore!" (Of course, it should be "corpore sano" But nothing rhymes, except for guano.)

And so, through National

Poetry Day, Never lose a chance to say The first thing that comes into your mind As long as the second is nearly

Normally our speech is so empirical; Leap at the chance to make

it lyrical! Wax euphoric! Go poetic! Not to try would be pathetic! And when Friday comes and Thursday goes You can gratefully revert to

For help with this poem,

financial aid, And future subsidy promises

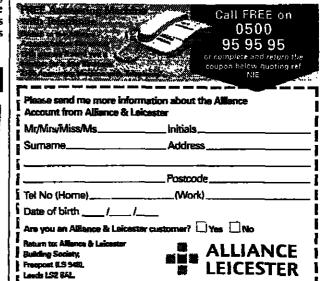
We'd like to thank the Lottery, The Arts Council and the Treasury. We'd really like to, but we can't. None of the buggers would

give us a grant.

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by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

Generation Why ALL TOGETHER IN HARMONY IT'S A GREAT SUCCESS. A GOOD GOD! IT'S A HIPPY BENEFIT HARTLEY BARKING, MP FOR THE BEHIND JOHN MAJOR. ONE CONSTITUENCY OF SAFESEAT ON CONFERENCE TO UNITE THE SCROUNGER TYPE! SECURITY! GRAB PARTY AND THE PEOPLE NATION, ONE PEOPLE ... THE WANE, HOW DO YOU VIEW HIM BEFORE HE MUGS SOMEONE!! OF GREAT BRITAIN. THE CONFERENCE SO FAR?

that did for our mass-market car and motorcycle industries. Much the same thing happened to our consumer electronics industry, although we have been more successful in preserving some indigenous up-market brands. In some corners of manufacturing we have kept such successful niche players, but much of our mass manufacturing is now foreign-owned. Indeed,

foreign ownership, by bringing in world-class standards, has led to the welcome renaissance now evident. But it is a harsh process. Mass manufacturing is a commodity business. The products are much the same, so there is tremendous pressure to grind down costs. To make money you have either to be very big in world terms (being big in national terms is not enough) or you have to find the undiscovered corner where craft and cun-

compete with each other, to be sure,

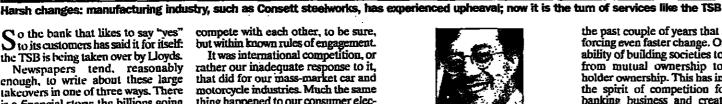
but within known rules of engagement.

rather our inadequate response to it,

It was international competition, or

ning enable smallish players to excel. This process, this division into commodity and niche businesses is less advanced in most service businesses, largely because they have been less exposed to international competition. But it is happening. Look at retailing. It is an area where we have not only responded effectively to foreign competition, but are exporting our own expertise. Retailing is not yet a truly global business, but if it does become one, we have several global brand names: M&S in particular.

But our high streets and our out-oftown shopping centres are dominated by chains. There is a homogeneity



Banking is changing from being a cottage industry into a genuine

factory system

about British retailing which is unequalled in Europe. An M&S, a Boots, a Sainsbury or any of the other top 10 brands provides consistent high quality. We have voted for these dominant chains with our purses and wallets in exactly the same way that we have voted to buy our cars and our TVs from a dozen or so dominant manufacturers. And we seem to be in the process of making the same choice

with financial services. There have, of course, been large banking groups for many years: witness the waves of mergers before the Second World War which led to the "big seven" clearing banks. The seven then became four and names like Martins and the District disappeared. So in one sense we are seeing just another act of a very long-running play.

But there are two new features in forcing even faster change. One is the ability of building societies to change from mutual ownership to shareholder ownership. This has increased the spirit of competition for retail banking business and created new entities that can be taken over. The other is a change in what might

the past couple of years that are now

be called the manufacturing of financial services. We don't think of banking services being manufactured, but someone has to feed the information into computers, handle the cash, make the decisions about loans, try and sell travellers' cheques and so on. Some of this work is done at central "factories". such as the banks' computer centres. But a lot still goes on in branches in the high street. Next time you have to queue at a bank counter and see several of the staff just sitting at their desks, reflect on the fact that they are not doing nothing - they are manu-

facturing banking services.

But now banking is changing from being a cottage industry with lots of branches staffed by lots of people into a genuine factory system. FirstDirect, the telephone banking service of the Midland Group, has its staff sitting in a central "factory" doing their business over the phone. This has had an absolutely shattering impact on the way banks think. It does very well on customer satisfaction (excellent results in this month's Which? report), it is very cheap and it does not trade on what banks have assumed was one of their great assets, their brand name.

Much the same is happening with telephone insurance services, pio-neered by the Royal Bank of Scotland's

Direct Line, which are proliferating. Result: banking and insurance are becoming true commodity products, where people make a utilitarian deci-sion on who is doing the best deal. rather than being loyal to their par-ents' bank, or the one that gave them their first student overdraft.

Photographs: North News/Geraint Lewis

This put tremendous pressure on the industry to find ways of driving down costs. There may be room for a handful of boutiques that charge much more and offer a personal service. This is certainly very profitable – all the big banks are seeking to provide this sort of service. But the big business consists of driving down costs, "rationalising" "downsizing", "letting people go", and all the other euphemisms that compa-nies employ when they are cutting their labour force. No one knows how far telephone banking will cut into branch banking but the banks know that they have to slim their branches and offer some form of telephone service. And slimming is less painful if you huddle

with someone else while you do it. So what we are seeing is the same sort of process that has happened in manufacturing; the same sort of job insecurity; the same pressure to drive down costs; and from the customer's point of view, the same homogeneity of service. We clearly want it. We chose the banks (or building societies) that offer the best perceived service for the lowest price: the cheapest loans, the highest deposit rates. We may regret the loss of independence of the TSB, just as we bemoan the closure of the corner store or the demise of names such as Austin or Riley. But that is where our actions lead.

Righter Al Britishing

Sales better 5

A PARTY NA

obituaries/gazette

Christopher Keene

There were few jobs around an opera house that Christopher Keene did not do superlativeby well. A magnificent conductor, in particular of 20th-century works, and a successful administrator, he also composed, wrote libretti, directed and, in his younger days, prepared singers with missionary zeal

At New York City Opera, first as music director then, after the retirement of Beverley Sills, as general director, he made an indelible mark on the city's musical life, but his influence extended far beyond New York



City, to the Spoleto Festival, both in Italy and the United States: and to all the numerous other opera companies and orchestras that he worked with over the last 25 years, and to whom he communicated his own passionate interest in

contemporary opera. Keene was born in Berkeley, California, in 1946 and studied there at the University of California, but dropped out before graduating, mainly because his passion for putting on student and semi-professional opera productions, which he directed and conducted himself, took up

all his energies.

women born at the turn of the

century who by their indepen-

dence of spirit gave intima-

was to come about later. Her pi-

oneering work in the establish-

ment of speech therapy as an

effective treatment for lan-

guage disorders led to her be-

ing the first person to receive

Honours of the Profession from

the Royal College of Speech

and Language Therapists, in

Born into a comfortable.

middle-class family (her father

was an eminent printer), Peg-

gy Carter was the only girl

among a family of five children.

Thus, with loving brothers and

a settled way of life, she might

til marriage and a subsequent

family would claim her. In-

stead she ventured forth, first

into the theatre, and then, at-

tracted by the plight of those with language difficulties, she turned in the Thirties to speech

therapy. The profession was in

its early stages of development

and aspiring speech therapists

had to rely to a great extent on

In the early Forties, Carter

held clinical appointments at the

Mildmay Hospital, in east Lon-don, and at the West End Hos-

their own private study.

well have remained at home un-

he went along. Instead of finishing his university course, in 1969 he became the first Julius Rudel Fellow, in the New York City Opera's training scheme, helping to prepare operas such as Janacek's Makropulos Case for its first New York performance.

By that time Keene had already become associated with the Spoleto Festival in Italy, of which he was music director from 1976 to 1980. He was asked by Menotti to conduct The Saint of Bleecker Street there in 1968. Back in New York, he made his conducting debut with NYCO in 1970 with Ginastera's Don Rodrigo and his Metropolitan début the following year with Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci. This latter was not a success: the star and the orchestra did exactly what they pleased, while Keene was not much interests in Cav and Pag anyway. He then ran a summer festival at Chautauqua and conducted for Syracuse Opera and various other organisations. In 1973 he made his Covent

Garden début conducting Madam Butterfly; in 1974 he conducted a Ring cycle at Artpark, Lewiston; and from 1977 to 1980 he worked for the American Spoleto Festival at Charleston, South Carolina. He wrote the libretto for Stephen Douglas Burton's The Duchess of Malfi, an adaptation of Webster's tragedy, and conducted the premiere at Wolf Trap Farm, Vienna, West Virginia, in 1978.

Keene finally returned to the City Opera as musical di-rector in 1983. He conducted Philip Glass's Alchnaten the following year, and recorded Glass's Saryagraha with the City Opera forces in 1985. In 1988 If his energies. he conducted the premiere of He learnt how to conduct as Jay Reise's Raspuin. The fol-

Peggy Carter

adults and children with lan-

guage disorders. Her methods

of treatment tended towards a

Her main interest lay in the

problems of stammerers and the

thesis which led to the award of

a Fellowship of the Royal Col-

lege of Speech and Language

Therapists in 1944 centred on

she took an active part in the de-

velopment of the profession as

a whole - serving as Chairman

of the College from 1963 to

1965, a time of great activity

during which plans for the first

university degree-based course

were being considered - and

continued to practise for several

an especial interest in Jung.

Peggy Carter was a member of in London (now closed), where

that group of redoubtable she treated a wide range of

tions of the emancipation which psychological approach, with

al director of the company. Since then NYCO has gained enormously in reputation, offering New York its first staged performance of Moses und Aron and its local premieres of Zimmerman's Die Soldatan and Busoni's Dr Faustus.

During its 50th anniversary season in 1993 the City Opera staged three premieres of American operas in October: Ezra Laderman's Marilyn. Lukas Foss's Griffelkin and Hugo Weisgall's Esther. These were not conducted by Keene himself, whose personal contribution to the anniversary season was the New York premiere of Tippett's Midsummer Marriage. In June 1994 Keene conducted the premiere of Dominick Argento's Dream of Valentino for Washington Opera and in May was to be found in Berlin, conducting the first performance of Joost Meier's Dreyfus - "Die Affäre" at the

Deutsche Oper.

However, his first commitment was to the City Opera, whose 1995 fall season he opened on 7 September conducting a new production of Hindemith's Mathis der Maler. Running an opera company, as he once said, "was what I was born to do".

Elizabeth Forbes

Christopher Keene: born Berkeley, California 21 December 1946; music director, Festival of the Two Worlds, Spoleto, Italy 1972-76, general director 1973-75; music director, Artpark 1974-89; music director, Syracuse Symphony 1975-84; music director, Spoleto Festival USA 1977-80; music director, Long Is-land Philharmonic 1979-90; music director, New York City Opera 1982-86, general director 1989-95; married (two sons); died New York 8 October 1995.

years afterwards until retiring in

But matters of speech therapy were only one facet of Peg-

passions were gardens and,

above all, the fine arts. This was

apparent when visiting her

house, where she was sur-

rounded by beautiful pictures

and furniture. On one occasion

she spotted a dilapidated sofa

in a second-hand shop. Taken

same again to have it delivered.

Instinctively she felt there was

something special about it and this was confirmed by Sotheby's

who identified it as being prob-

ably the very one on which

Madame Récamier had re-

clined when being painted by

Jacques-Louis David. It was

later bought by a Paris museum.

unfailing pleasure for her to the

last. It was a place of great beau-

ty and tranquillity and each

year it was opened to the pub-

lic. She celebrated her 90th

birthday by having floodlighting

installed so that her many

friends attending the party

could enjoy the scene as darkness fell.

Margaret (Peggy) Carter, speech

therapist: born Sanderstead June 1901; died London 17 Septem-

Margaret Edwards

Her garden was a source of

t, she paid £5 and then the

Carter's interests. Other

her sixties.



Catherine Cobb

The study of the crafts in 20thcentury England requires, beyoud knowledge of objects, a knowledge of people and their activities away from the workbench. The life of Catherine Cobb spanned nearly the whole century and her craft career. from initiation into jewellerymaking on the floor underneath her mother's workbench to the classes she was teaching in Cambridge within a month of her death, was nearly as long. Besides this she was a puppeteer and examiner in art all over the

As the daughter of the book-binder Douglas Cockerell and his wife Florence Arundel (who died when she was a child), she was born into an Arts and Crafts household. There was a photograph of William Morris house in Letchworth and she assumed for years that he must have been one of the distinguished bearded visitors, although she was born seven years too late. Her uncle Sir Sydney Cockerell knew Morris and John Ruskin. She never doubted that the crafts were "a perfectly reasonable way to spend one's life".

"Casty" Cockerell learnt her craft of jewellery and silversmithing at the Central School, in London, where she joined some lively students who were experimenting with block-printing textiles. One of these, Joyce Clissold, became a firm friend and Casty had space in the Footprints textile workshop which Clissold took over from its founders. Casty found some Punch and Judy puppets in her

their Punch and Judy show on with old silver, when servants to tour, around Buckinghamshire and along the south coast.

There were many adventures retailed in Clissold's diaries, which were lent by Casty Cobb for the exhibition "Bold Impressions" which recently opened at Central St Martin's Lethaby Gallery. She also assisted the sculptor William Simmonds with his marionette theatre, remembered with awe by the few incky enough to see it, helping to pass the puppets on andoff while the illustrator Barnett Freedman provided music with his violin.

Casty Cobb's work falls into three categories. There were pieces of jewellery, typically of a slightly improvised nature using objets trouvés like quartz good deal to say." from a Scottish stream-bed and rummaging in suppliers' boxes in Clerkenwell Road. She had a fondness for the clear, bright and transparent and no aversion to theatricality. Among her recent productions were necklaces with black, white and red beads on brass safety pins. Another line of work was to supply silver clasps and other ornaments for bookbindings from the Cockerell bindery which was carried on by her brother

Perhaps her most individual contribution to the crafts of her time was in silver piqué work on ivory and ebony. This consists of hammering silver wire into holes pierced in the base material to make little silver points, arranged in simple patterns. She made ivory boxes and cruet sets but most particularly cut-

Court of Appeal (Lord Justice

Lord Justice Hutchison);

September 1995

Evans, Lord Justice Morritt and

Although consulting a solicitor

was not enough to fix a plain-

tiff with acquiring the relevant

knowledge for bringing an ac-

tion for damages, on the facts

the plaintiff had the requisite

knowledge before he consuit-

ed solicitors and acquired the

knowledge more than three

years before his writ was issued.

lowed the defendant's appeal

against Judge Kennedy QC's

decision on a preliminary issue

that the plaintiff's claim in

negligence against the defen-

In 1981 the plaintiff's bun-

alow was damaged and,

through insurers, the defendant

firm of architects and survey-

ors undertook the supervision

of the repair work. The plain-

tiff resumed occupation in ear-

ly 1983 and suffered serious problems with damp. The plaintiff believed that defects in

the way the house had been re-

built gave rise to severe rising

damp and complained to the

defendant. The defendant in-

formed him that the problem was one of condensation and

the property needed time to dry

dant was not statute barred.

The Court of Appeal al-

clean knife blades no longer existed. She made knives and -forks, with steel elements forged in Sheffield to her design, to which she added her delightful and distinctive piqué

In 1937 Casty married Arthur Cobb and encouraged him in setting up the Forest School Camps Group. When her children had grown up, she began examining in art for the Uni-versity of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, often travelling with the potter Charlotte Bawden. She was sent to Malaya, Africa and India, recalling, "We pulled up the stan-dard. They were always willing to listen to us, and we had a

The Cobbs moved to Cam-War and Casty taught drawing and design as well as jewellery at Cambridge Technical College. She later held a jewellery class at her house in Trumpington without any thought of retiring even after reaching 90, sharing the benefits of her excellent collection of tools as well as a sense of the pleasure and excitement of the activity itself, overlooked by Joyce Clissold's fabric collage pictures of some of their shared adventures.

Cobb was a member of the Art Workers Guild. Her work is represented in the collection. of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths.

Alan Powers Catherine Anne Cockerell, jeweller and silversmith: born 28 March 1903; married 1937 family attic, Clissold printed fab-ric for a "set-up" and in the sum-mers of the Thirties they took lery. It was after the war that she realised the likely demand for three daughters); died Cam-fine stainless steel knives to go bridge 17 September 1995. Arthur Cobb (died 1984; one son,

Michael Thomas

It always amused Michael Thomas that the British in 1940 classified him as "a friendly enemy alien". The cheerful shambles of logic in the phrase appealed to his sense of fun and

It also seemed to embody a certain Englishness, the antithesis to the intellectual standards of his native Berlin, with which he fell in love. But the words were not a bad description of him, for much of his life. He was never an exclusive native of any country, or any organisation, but always had the alluring, sometimes perturbing air of a stranger from some wider continent of experience. He was never a foot-slogger. but always a contact man, in-terpreting the orders and standards of one world to another. His greatest achievement was

in exactly that role, during the earliest years of the British occupation of their zone of Germany. Thomas, by then an officer in the British forces, became the eyes and ears of General Templer, a very special and privileged young man who made contact with emergent politicians and journalists in the zone and assessed them for his master. This did not make him popular with some senior Con-trol Commission figures. But it made him one of the people whose judgement and choices defined West Germany's political society as it rose nervously from the ruins. The Federal Republic itself is, in some of its better aspects, his memorial.

He was born into the Hollaender family in Berlin, a constellation of assimilated Jewish talent and intellectual attainment; his father was a writer, a critic and a director of Max Reinhardt's theatre. Ulrich Hollaender, as Michael was first named, reached Britain only weeks before the outbreak of war. He changed his name in order to protect his family in Germany but always refused to describe himself as a refugee or émigré. With charming arro-gance, he recalled: "I did not care to stand aside when Britain was about to be invaded, so I volunteered for the Army - not as an Englishman, but as a private ally in the struggle

This was the beginning of his many careers as a contact man between cultures. Later in the war, he became liaison officer in Normandy to the legendary General Maczek, commander of the Polish 1st Armoured Division, and he stayed with the Poles until the war ended (Maczek died last year at the age of 102, and Thomas wrote an affectionate, penetrating obituary for the independent). There followed his period with General Templer, and his part in the re-invention of German

democracy. Personally a conservative in politics, Michael Thomas did not immediately warm to the narrow personality of Konrad Adenauer, but in his book Deutschland, England über alles (1987) there is a wonderfully funny memoir of how he and the then Lieutenant-Colonel Noël Annan tried to limit the damage caused when a British brigadier sacked Adenauer as mayor of Cologne for "playing politics" instead of clearing

In the same way, he did not often agree with the liberal views of Die Zeit and Der Spiegel, seedlings of a free press in the British Zone, but his personal respect for Countess Mar-ion Donhoff and Rudolf Augstein helped both publications to survive dangerous

Later, in the 1950s, Michael Thomas took the decision to stay in Germany. His British "dimension" continued to flourish: his wife Elizabeth, who survives him, is English, while his sons and his daughter Gina (a London-based writer for the Frankfurter Allgemeine) were sent to English public schools. But he settled in Hamburg and, declining invitations from Adenauer's circle to become a politician, joined the steel exporting firm of Coutinho Caro to build up its trade and contacts in what was not yet known as the "developing world".

Neal Ascherson

Ulrich Hollaender (Michael Thomas), businessman: born Berlin 7 November 1915; married Elizabeth Dring (two sons, one daughter); died Hamburg 25 September 1995.

Professor Michael Balfour

In his obituary of Professor raries; when one bears in mind Michael Balfour [28 September] the high prices such literary doc-Leonard Miall rightly gives uments now command it was a prominence to his distinguished generous gift indeed. He later career as an historian and public servant. Can I add a footnote on his lifelong interest in Robert Louis Stevenson? writes Ernest

against the Nazis."

Balfour lived at Vailima and became a close friend of Stevenson in the last years of his life; he wrote the authorised biography of his famous cousin in 1901. In 1960, drawing on a mass of unpublished material, Michael published two authoritative articles in the Times Literary Supplement on how his father came to write the biography and he followed it up 20 years later by a lecture in Edinburgh. He gave to the National Library of Scotland all his father's papers connected with the writing of the biography, including not only letters by RLS himself but letters by Henry James and other contempo-

gave to the library his father's iournals and letters written from the South Seas. This material is a treasure trove for the Stevenson scholar and I used it extensively in my ed Stevenson's Letters.

Michael Balfour derived great pleasure from his family link with Stevenson. He and I corresponded for over 30 years about RLS; he lent me original letters and elucidated family references in a way that no one else could have done. In the last 18 months of his life when his failing health meant that he was not able to carry out any original work he generously read the galley proofs of the eight volumes of the Letters and sent many corrections and lively comments.

He was the last link with

A.L. "B" Botnick, civil rights ac- and Mississippi, and with the tivist, died New Orleans 5 Oc-

those who knew Stevenson well;

Anti-Defamation League of tober, aged 71. Worked against
B'nai B'rith to campaign for legthe Ku Klux Klan in Louisiana islation against anti-Semitism.

tributability had been acquired, on the facts it was not open to the judge to find that the plain-

tiff did not have the requisite

knowedge in May 1987 when he

There was evidence from which it was clear that the

plaintiff had the requisite

knowledge after April 1987

when they finally rejected the

defendant's assertions about

condensation. From an early

stage, in 1983, the plaintiff

knew of the facts which led him

consulted solicitors.

gen Meter beiter ber eine bereite

Births. **Marriages** & Deaths

BIRTHS

MALTBY: To Emma (nee Rawson) and Alexander, a daughter, Amelia Dorothy, and a son, Louis Peter, born 10 October at Chebea and West-minter Merchiel

GALBRAITH: On 11 October 1995, peacefully in hospital after a brief ill-ness, Henry Douglas, aged 77 years, former Head of Classics at Bedford School, Funeral service will take place at Bedford School Chapel on Incsday 17 October at 12 moon, No flowers please, dougloop if desired for downs please, donations if desired for Bedford Hospital Nurses Fund may be sent to Amolds Funeral Service, Rolf Avenue, Bedford MK14 7TE, Telephone 01234 359529.

MALIM: Peacefully and with courage. VIALIM: Peacchily and with courage, on 10 October, aged \$1, Theodorn Kathryn Malim, beloved wife of the late David Wentworth Mnlim and Hugh. Funcral private. Service of thanksgiving at All Saints Church, Great Chesterford, on Thursday 19 October at 2.30pm. No flowers, but donations may be sent to Hertforthire. Associated the sent to Hertforthire. may be sent to Hertfordshire Asso-ciation for the Disabled, Woodside Centre. The Commons, Welvyn Gar-den City, Hertfordshire AL7 4DD. PACKHAM: Leonard George, of Eve-sham, peacefully at Warwick Hospi-tal, on 10 October 1995, aged 87. Beloved husband of Ethel, father and grandfather. A private cremation will take place shortly. Donations, i desired, for Eve Therapy Unit, Chel-tenham, to Philip Tomlins, 36 The Levs, Evesham, Worcestershire WRII 5AP, Enquiries to 01386 765132

Birthdays

pital for Nervous Diseases, also Carter: speech therapy

Lady Brook, founder, Advisory Centre for Young People, 88; Professor Juliet Cheetham, sociologist, 56; Dame Elizabeth Chesterton, archi-tect, 80; Mr Jaroslav Drobny, former tennis player, 74; Mr Kenneth Griffith, actor, writer and documentary film maker, 74; Mr Robert Heron, former director. Duke of Edin-Jonathan Holborow, Editor, Mail on Sunday, 52; Mr Magnus Magnusson, broadcaster and writer, 66; Dr John Molfatt, former Provost, The Queen's College, Oxford, 73: Mr Rick Parlitt, guitar player and singer, 47: Vice-Admiral Sir John Parker, 80; Mr Luciano Pavarotti, operatic tenor, 60; Miss Angela Rippon, television presenter, 51; Sir Archibald Ross, for-mer diplomat, 84; Mr David Threlfall, actor, 42; Mr Michael Verey, merchant banker, 83: Mr Nigel Waterson MP, 45; Sir David White, chairman, Nottingham Health Authority, 66; Mr David

Anniversaries

Young MP, 65.

Births: Edward VL King of England 1537; Max Friedländer, baritone and writer, 1852; James Ramsny Mar-Donald, statesman, 1866; Ralph Vaughan Williams, composer, 1872; Aleister Edward Alexander Crowley, author and occultist, 1875. Deaths: Piero della Francesca, painter and writer, 1492; Elizabeth Fry (Gurney), Quaker prison reformer, 1845; Robert Stephenson, civil engineer, 1859; Sonja Henie, skater and actress, 1969. On this day: an island in the West Indies was discovered by Christopher Columbus, which he WRII 5AP. Enquiries to 01386
765133.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES &
DEATHS please telephone 0171-293 2011.

MONTÉ Minor car designed by Alec

Issigonis was produced at Cowley. Oxfordshire, 1948; the first London production of the musical show *Lit*the Shop of Horrors was presented, 1983. Today is the Peast Day of St Ed-win, St Ethelburga of Barking, Saints Felix and Cyprian, St Maximilian of Lorch and St Wilfrid of York.

Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "The Northern Renaissance (ii): Memline, The Downe Triptych", 1pm. British Museum: Tim Clark, "Utamaro and the Yoshiwara Pleasure Quarter", 1.15pm.
National Portrait Gallery: Michael
Cassin, "Prince Henry Benedict
Stewart: brother of the Bonnie Prince", 1.10pm. Bert Hardy

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Bert Hardy, photographer, will be held at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London EC4, on Wednesday 8 November 1995 at 12 noon.

Luncheons HM Government Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday in Admiralty House, London SW1, in honour of General Owe Wiktorin.

Supreme Commander Swedish

Armed Forces. Royal College of

Surgeons Sir Reginald Murley delivered the Thomas Vicary Lecture yesterday at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, London WC2 Professor Donald Barttrop, Master, presided

ber-Surgeons' Hall, London EC2. Sir Rodney Sweetman, President, Sir Reginald Murley and Mr Barry Jack-

Association of Wrens

The Princes Royal attended a service to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Association of Wiensheld yesterday in St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4. The Ven Michael Bucks, Chaplain of the Fleet, was the preacher. Mrs Marjorie Indiah, Chairman of the Association, and Miss Danhue Binndell President. Miss Danhue Blundell, President received the guests.

British Red Cross

Princess Alexandra, Vice-Prelident, British Red Cross, presented the Muriel Monkhouse Award for exceptional delivery of the Red Cross Tracing Service to Mr Derest Ind-say, on behalf of Mr William Lindsay, at a reception held yesterday at the Financial Times, London SE1. Mrs Elspeth Thomas, Chamnan of Council, British Red Cross, Mr David Bell, chief executive, Branchal Times, Mr Geoffrey Dennis Direc-tor, International Division British Red Cross, Miss Sandra Singer, Head of International Welfare, British Red Cross, and Miss Muriel Monkhouse; were the speakers.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Princess Royal, President Riting for the Disabled Association, attending a Council Meeting at Saidlers' Fiell, Londin EC.2. The Druckers of Giocoster, Patros, National Ashmo Campaign, attends the 1995 Ashmo Campaign, attends the 1995 Ashmo SW6. The Duke of East visits fite Duke of Keat's School, Estimat, Crantellis, Surroy. Changing of the Guard The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Grand at Horse

Action for damp problem is statute barred Wilson v Le Fevre Wood & Royle:

LAW REPORT

made a renewed complaint which the defendant declined to deal with. In the spring of 1987 he consulted the citizens' advice bureau and in May 1987 he consulted Heringtons, solicitors, who issued a writ against the defendant on 16 July 1990. The issue was whether the plaintiff first had the knowledge required for bringing an action for damages after 16 July 1987, when expert advice was received, so as to avoid the action from being

14A of the Limitation Act The judge found that in 1983 the plaintiff accepted the defendant's professional opinion of the cause of the damp and the plaintiff first had knowledge that the damp was attributable to the act or omission of the defendant after 16

statute barred under section

July 1987. Paul Parker (Reynolds Poner Chamberlain) for the defendant; Richard Deighton (Cooper Carter Claremont)

Lord Justice Hutchison said that the alleged negligence occurred, at latest, in early 1983. The critical question was

In April 1987 the plaintiff whether the plaintiff first had "the knowledge required for bringing an action for damages' before or after July 1987: sec-tion 14(A)(5). Only by bring-ing himself within that

provision could the plaintiff avoid the consequences of the ordinary rule that actions for negligence not involving personal injury or death must be brought within six years of the accrual of the cause of action. It was for the plaintiff to

prove a date within three years of the commencement of proceedings when he acquired the relevant knowledge. On the basis of the plaintiff's pleading, the plaintiff acquired the relevant knowledge on the basis of advice in September 1987 but it was now known to have been given in May 1987.

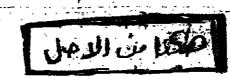
Merely to show that solicitors had been consulted was not enough to fix the plaintiff with constructive knowledge: there must be an allowance of time for the person consulted to get such information as he needed to give advice.

Even accepting that consulting a solicitor was not conclusive evidence against a plaintiff on the issue of when the relevant knowledge of atto the conviction that the damp problems was attributable to the defendant's acts or omissions. Even if he was willing to give the defendant a chance to prove the correctness of its diagnosis, in April 1987 he reverted to his former belief and took advice. The writ was not issued with-

in three years of the date when the plaintiff first acquired the requisite knowledge. It was open to serious doubt whether in a case such as the present it was wise to have a preliminary issue. There should always be a careful and rigorous analysis of the possible advantage and disadvantages, particularly in regard to costs, of such a

Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Evans agreed.

Ying Hui Tan, Barrister



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US Congress is urged to approve aid and 'put a smile on a child's face'

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2548 fax 0171-293 2098

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ISB Group	369	19	5.4	Bunzi	191	5	2.5
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Source: Datastream

IN BRIEF

Asda chief gives up political hopes

The Asda chief, Archie Norman, said that he would give up his political ambitions to continue to build the recovery of the supermarket group which he had revived. Mr Norman, who took over Asda in 1991, had been mentioned as a possible candidate for Alan Howarth's seat at Stratford-on-Avon.

Executive pay, page 25

Treasury accused in Knight Williams fight

The Treasury was accused yesterday of spurning a battle for compensation by elderly investors caught up in the collapse of Knight Williams, the failed financial adviser. The investors' action group claim that a letter from Angela Knight, the Treasury Minister, rejected every specific request for help.

Cost fear over gits settlement plan

Bank of England proposals for a new gilts settlement system to run alongside Crest are hitting serious objections among market makers. Replies to a consultative document from the Bank are expected to show worries among leading gilt edged market makers (GEMS) about the cost implications of a new system. "The sort of costs involved will be intolerable for at least three years," said one head of market making.

Lotus chief to step down after merger

Jim Manzi, chief executive officer of the Lotus Development Corp, said he was resigning just three months after the software company was bought by IBM for \$3.5bn. "The attributes I believe made me an effective chief executive of a nearly billiondollar independent company, aren't necessarily the attributes required of an executive leading a division within a much larger organisation."

Rumours hit Fokker share price

Shares in Fokker, the Dutch planemaker owned by Germany's Daimlet-Benz, fell 12 per cent amid rumours that it was about to file for protection against creditors. The planemaker is struggling to survive after a series of record losses. Daimler's recent restructuring package was rejected by the Dutch government.

Leeson 'will not contest SFO move'

The lawyer representing the former Barings futures trader Nick Leeson said he does not intend to appear in court today to put any arguments over the Serious Fraud Office's decision to withdraw eight summonses issued against his client in a private prosecution. The proceedings to date have involved the Barings bondholders and the SFO, a statement said, and neither Mr Leeson nor his lawyers have any proper role within them.

EC aid proposed for steel company

The European Commission is recommending £28.6m in state aid linked to the sale of Irish Steel to ISPAT International. The Commission said it could not require Irish Steel to cut capacity, but would impose other conditions, including a five-year cap on production and strict monitoring. The Commission decided to recommend the aid because independent consultants had concluded that the new company would be viable, especially since an experienced private sicel operator was prepared to invest significant capital in it. The aid package will go before EU industry ministers on 6 November for approval.

North West stuns rival with raised bid for Rec

RY FAGAN ustrial Correspondent

web, the regional electricicompany, succumbed to attack from North West Water after a renewed £1.83bn offer

The size of the offer surprised the City and was met with a resounding silence from North West's rival bidder, Texas Energy Partners, which is now expected to turn its attention to another electricity target.

The revised offer values each Norweb share at £11.70 with a cash alternative of £11.50, compared with Texas Energy's latest cash offer of £10.85. For Norweb shareholders, who can

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·		DECOMPOSITION

reclaim tax on the special dividend element of the price, North West's offer is worth up to 1,207.5p per share.

The price per share is regarded as extremely high and the £10.10 per share tabled by National Power in its proposed friendly takeover of Southern Electric.

Shares in North West Water, which built its stake in Norweb to 25 per cent yesterday, fell by 22p to 573p. One City analyst said: "This is very, very overpriced. The shareholders I am talking to are not happy."

There is a view that North West's determination to win

Norweb is driven by the desire of the company's chairman, Sir Desmond Pitcher, to build a regional super-utility in the north west of England. But Brian Staples, North West's chief ex-ecutive, flatly rejected the suggestion that his company has gone too far. He said the takeover would still be earnings enhancing in the first full year and that interest cover and the gearing of the enlarged group would remain "prudent". He went on: "I can tell you

that North West's board have determined a position which we would never go beyond. The multi-utility created through the merger of North West Water and Norweb, with their substantially overlapping customer bases, will be uniquely placed to deliver efficiency savings, which will bring benefits to both customers and shareholders."

There is concern in the City about the regulatory and political risks facing the enlarged group, which would fall under the scrutiny of Offer and Ofwat, and be subject to two price control regimes. One analyst also stressed the potential problems of integrating the two busi-nesses, and the fact that the water group has no experience in the electricity sector.

Ofwat, the water industry regulator, has already warned that it needs to be convinced that the takeover will not compromise North West's ability to fund its core water and sewage operations. Ofwat and Offer have prepared a joint submission on the proposed bid for the Office of Fair Trading, which will advise the Government on whether the bid should be re-

The revised offer coincided with a renewed call by the Labour Party for the entire industry to be referred to the MMC in the light of the surge of bids for regional firms.

The board of Norweb said it had "no reason to expect Texas Energy Partners will revise its current offer ... and intends to recommend shareholders to accept the further increased offer from North West".

Cash-for-poor plea by Washington — The new president of the World Bank has issued an impassioned plea to new World Bank head the US Congress to approve funds for aid to the world's

mestic purposes will lead to ate a "results culture", he buge costs later. It is in the said. "We must focus on our James Wolfensohn (pictured above at the annual maintain an adequate level of the armlock that, I sense, bumeeting of the IMF-World

support." reaucracy has placed on this institution. If we do that then

change than any structural reorganisation," he said.

Mr Wolfensohn went on: "1 have learned that the real test of development can be measured not by the buteaucratic approval process but by the donor's own self-interest to clients and results and break smile on a child's face when a project is successful."

Fisons gives in to RPR

MAGNUS GRIMOND

The drugs group Fisons has given in to the £1.8bn raised bid from Rhone-Poulenc Rorer after the collapse of discussions with an unnamed white knight. The board, led by chief execuagainst Hanson's agreed bid for ferred to the Monopolies and tive Stuart Wallis, yesterday recommended the 265p offer, raised from 240p last week, nine days ahead of the closing date on 20 October.

poorest countries, writes Di-

Bank) said earlier this week:

Money saved now for do-

ane Coyle.

The news came as a surprise as Mr Wallis has strenuously resisted the bid and only last week dismissed the higher offer. saying it continued to undervalue the company. Explaining his apparent volte face, he said yesterday the board had already concluded before receiving the increased offer that it

was in a range they would be prepared to accept. "We would have even been prepared to accept a little lower than that", he

was an approach from a major pharmaceutical company, which had led them to believe that more attractive proposals might be put before shareholders. Mr Wallis refused to reveal theidentity of the putative white knight, although there were rumours that it was a Continental rival of RPR. There was some surprise that the board had decided to recommend the bid without waiting for the closing date to see if another bidder would enter the fray.

Mr Wallis dismissed any sug-

used to reward the effort and

tion scheme, the TSB's chief ex-

ecutive, Peter Ellwood stands to

make a paper profit of £2m on his 838,893 share options, while

TSB's chairman, Sir Nicholas

Goodison, could make £1.63m.

bank would retain TSB's mer-

chant bank, Hill Samuel, be-

cause of its fund management

and private banking activities. Sir Robin said the merger re-

quired an Act of Parliament

which he hoped would go

through "before the end of the

Bifu, the bank union, pledged

Sir Brian Pitman said the new

Under the executive share op-

skili involved."

shareholders, who he said had been "very loyal and supportive". However, many have defected from his cause during the What had prevented them sale by Sun Life of Canada building on a market raid last week to take the bidder's holding to 20.9 per cent.
Robert Cawthorn, chairman

reaucracy has placed on this

of RPR, was yesterday delighted at Fisons' acceptance of the revised offer, which followed allnight negotiations between the two sides. "We are very pleased that this was a very good price for Fisons, which has been recognised by the board."

step, once the bid went unconditional, would be to seek further gestion that there had been information on Fisons and set up

pressure from institutional a small integration team involving both sides to see how to proceed with the merger of the businesses. There would be redundancies, with one area of oblast few weeks, with yesterday's vious overlap being the two companies' respiratory sales forces in the US. But job losses from the combined team of

400 suggested in some quarters. Meanwhile, Fisons' development base for inhalant devices in Loughborough, Leicestershire, is likely to be expanded. The site is held on a lease from Astra of Sweden for five years. It was too early to say whether the 200 staff there would be Mr Cawthorn said the next merged with RPR's UK research and development operation at Dagenham, Mr Cawthorne said.

High street banking: Merged group starts looking for fresh acquisitions, while rival goes for fund manager

Lloyds seeks new target

Financial Correspondent

Lloyds Bank and TSB unveiled details of their £15bn merger yesterday, including £350m of cost savings per year by 1997 -and immediatly started talking about the next possible

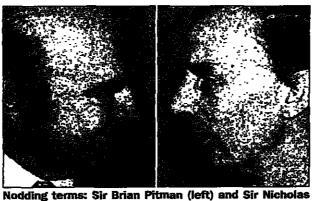
Lloyds' shares soared 49p to 769p and TSB's shares closed 18p up at 368p as the City welcomed the banks' joint statement on projected cost savings. Some analysts suggested that the bank had implied that savines could potentially be even higher than forecast.

Lloyds and TSB hit out at speculation on job losses, urged unions to drop their opposition to the deal and reaffirmed the future of the branch network. They said they would keep TSB's merchant bank, Hill Samuel, and would allow TSB Scotland to remain registered in Edinburgh as a separate entity.

Sir Robin Ibbs, Lloyds' chairman and chairman-designate of the new bank, said it would "remain watchful" of further consolidation in the financial services sector. If a possible target added value and shared Lloyds' culture then "we would take it seriously".

The merged bank would gen-erate surplus capital in a few years so it was not constrained by resources if a bid opportunity arose, said Sir Brian Pitman, Lloyds' chief executive. "The gaps between winners and losers is widening, not just in the

UK but all over the world." Sir Robin hit out at "alarmist figures" on job losses in the press while refusing to give any himself, "Clearly there will be a number of job reductions but the magnitude will depend on how the economy performs and the degree of success of this merger," he said. He said the vast majority of jub cuts would be by natural staff turnover,



Goddison at the launch of Lloyds TSB yesterday

Profile of the new group

Profit betwee tex E1,304m £504m £219m £2,027m

Shareholders funds : 23,661m 21,932m :21,009m :24,800m

Market capitalisation 29,490m 25,200m - £13,600m3

Total costs £2,472m £1,123m — £121m £3,726m

Opphism 1989 1786 Dec 1894 - Gg 1884 - Dec 1894

Total income £3,885m £1,915m £978m

Average staff numbers :: 62,120 26,860 :: 3,106

which currently stands at 6,000 a year for the combined bank. He said that by cutting out duplication there would be "one of everything" - one head office instead of two, one treasury operation, one branch technology system and so on.

Sir Robin said: "Any change can cause worries but in my experience people like to work for the winning team. The merger will be good for people all round and it will lead to better services and keener prices."

Although Lloyds will end up owning 70.4 per cent of the new bank following the merger, this did not mean Lloyds' operations would necessarily be chosen, he said. "It depends which is best." the share price has reflected

Branches

Sir Robin also strongly defended windfall profits from share options that the TSB board members stand to make under the merger. He said that just because there had been a now about share options in the utilities, this should not "cast a shadow across options as such. "There is an idea there is some-

holders with directors." he said. there is an opportunity for top management to participate. At the TSB there has been a remarkable improvement in profits over the last three years and

£81.4bn £34.7bn £19.4bn £135.5bn

1,800 1,100 240 3,140

in October 1985

·· 7m · 7,5m · 1.3m

but it is a recognised way of

"If the share price does well

vesterday to fight the merger, if necessary by challenging the move in Parliament. It believes up to 10,000 jobs and 500 branches are at risk. Leif Mills, Bifu's general secretary, said: "It is already clear that thousands of jobs in head thing disreputable about options office departments, branches

aligning the interests of sharego as a result of this merger. "Just about the only people to benefit from this merger will be the top executives who will get a fat bounty for the destruction of the TSB, an historic hank that has traditional roots

and subsidiary companies will

with working men and women and young people."

What shareholders get For 1 Lloyds share

2.704 shares in the new Lloyds TSB group valued at

For 1 TSB share 1 share in the new Lloyds TSB group valued at 284.2p

retail customers. plus 68.3p cash dividend Gartmore has £24bn in funds plus 16p tax credit for some under management, with a investors strong showing in UK pension Based on Lloyds' closing price of funds. It lacks much invest-

NatWest joins the tussle to win Gartmore

JOHN WILLCOCK

Nat West group is vying with sev-eral Continental banks for the prize of Gartmore, the UK fund manager. Having failed to acquire first Baring Asset Management, and then Mercury Asset Management at the time of the sale of SG Warburg, the UK bank is anxious not to lose out a third time.

Germany's Dresdner Bank and the Dutch giant ABN-Amro are also believed to be among the front-runners.

This spring Dresdner bought Kleinwort Benson, which has a relatively weak fund management business. ABN-Amro already owns the broker Hoare Govett, but has said repeatedly that it wants to expand its fund management activities as part of its global investment

banking ambitions. Late last month the troubled French Banque Indosuez said it was putting its 75 per cent stake in Gartmore up for sale. The market values the company at more than £550m, and any hidder would be expected to nav a hefty premium for control of Gartmore.

NatWest is looking significantly to expand its fund management business, which it sees as a key to building its retail financial services business in

general. It sees a higger asset management business as enhancing the scope of what it can offer its

ment trust business, however.

The American group GE Capital and ING, owner of Barings, have also been mentioned in the City as leading bidders.

Nationsbank of the US has a joint venture with Gartmore and as such has first refusal over up to a quarter of the British fund manager's shares. Any deal will have to be agreeable to the American bank, and it may well be a bidder itself.

Paul Myners, executive chairman of Gartmore, yesterday said: "No comment."

Dresdner also vesterday dethe British merchant bank clined to comment on a newspaper report that it was interested in buying the Indosuez stake. "A flat no comment," said the Dresdner spokesman, Thomas Holm. Gartmore's shares rose 10p

> to 276p on the speculation. The German newspaper Suddeutsche Zeitung said Banque Indosuez had started talks with the German bank, citing informed sources. The paper said the top po-

tential buyers were Dresdner Bank. West LB and BHF Bank. Gartmore, which reported pre-tax profits of £16.2m for the six months to 30 June 1995, has been in the bid frame ever since US and German banks started nibbling at the UK fi-

nancial sector. Any buyer will have to provide "golden handcuffs" to retain staff.

The announcement that indosuez was selling reignited speculation about other UK fund managers such as Mercury Asset Management, Perpetual and the Anglo-American Invesco.

Comment, page 25

Green budget: Influential forecast says the Chancellor has room for manoeuvre but says jury is out on plans for public spending cuts

Tax cuts of only £2-3bn predicted

Economics Editor

The 1995 budget will mark a return to tax cuts but they will be on a modest scale of £2bn-£3bn, according to the in-fluential "green budget" pre-sented by the Institute for Fiscal small overshoots in 1994/95 and 1995/96."

Presenting the 1995 "green Studies and Goldman Sachs. Such a reduction would be consistent with a public sector borrowing requirement in 1996/7 of £17bn, £4bn higher than the level projected by the Treasury in the 1994 budget.

A combination of spending cuts, offsetting tax rises and toleration of an increase in the PSBR would allow cuts in taxation which would be concentrated on income tax. "Such a budget would not offend against the principles of sound public finance we have advocated in the past," the report said.

However, the authors of the report warned that they had "considerable doubts" about the ability of the Government to cut spending in real terms in 1995/96. "The jury is still out on

whether the tight spending plans for the future will be relised, whether plans will be relaxed in the run-up to the election or whether cash plans will be tightened to account for

budget" the IFS Director, Andrew Dilnot, said that £3bn would pay for a cut in the basic rate of tax from 25 to 23.5 per cent. An increase of £450 in allowances was much more equitable but lacked the same punch. A more arresting package, he suggested, might be to achieve a basic rate of 20 per cent in one fell swoop. This would be achieved by raising the

Increase in PSBR Income tax cuts

current lower band in which taxable income is taxed at 20 per cent from £3,200 to £11,225

At that level, there would be more taxpayers paying at 20 per cent than at 25 per cent. However, this would involve limiting the relief on personal allowances to 20 per cent, just as the relief on the married coupie's allowance has been reduced to 15 per cent.

Mr Dilnot thought that a windfall tax on the utilities was not likely but that the Government might use the threat of one to get regulators to push for more rebates for customers. "The best solution to monopoly abuses by the utility companies would be tighter

regulation rather than the Government appropriating these monopoly profits through taxation," the report said.

Outright abolition of stamp duty on the house purchase was less likely than an increase in its threshold from £60,000 to £100,000, Mr Dilnot said. He also questioned current taxation on drinks, which he described as "pretty bizarre." Mr Dilnot said there was a case for reducing taxes on spirits since the ise in demand might actually boost revenue. Taxes on beer could, however, safely be

raised to raise receipts. Despite the energetic lobbying of the Institute of Directors for abolition of capital gains tax, this did not figure in the green budget. According to Mr Dilnot, CGT is "a finger in the dyke" necessary to prevent the conversion of income tax into capital gains. Its abolition would lead to substantial tax

The trajectory for public borrowing laid out by the green budget would be consistent with a deficit of 2.1 per cent next year and eventual near balance by 1998/9. According to Gavyn Davies of Goldman Sachs this highlighted the potential for a relaxation of budgetary policy under a Labour

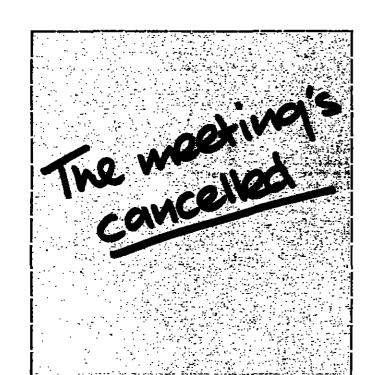
The leeway arose because Gordon Brown's "golden rule" of borrowing no higher than in-vestment was less restrictive than the Government's plan to restore balance to the public finances before the end of the decade. By permitting a PSBR of around 1.5 to 2.5 per cent of GDP, this created aconsiderable fiscal scope" for Labour, amounting to £12bn in 1997/8 and as much as £18bn in 1998/9.

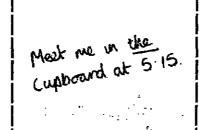


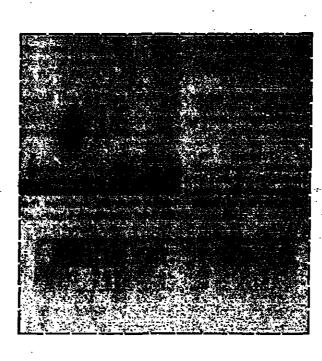
The Chancellor's famous red box: when its contents are revealed next month, will they follow today's 'green' outline?

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made to reveal managing cost NIC CICUTTI

Unit trusts

Tens of thousands of savers in unit and investment trusts are to be told for the first time the cash cost of managing their funds, ending years of argument within the financial services

The Personal Investment Authority, the leading financial watchdog, said yesterday it would require fund managers to disclose their charges to clients before their products can be sold. The proposals bring unit and investment trusts further into line with life and pensions products, where a similar regime has been in force since

the beginning of the year.

David Peffer, the PIA's secretary, said yesterday that exact details for the unit and investment trust industry will be published shortly. Comments on some of the technical aspects will be sought before the new rules become operational by the middle of next year.

i he announcement was welcomed yesterday by sections of the industry. Philip Warland, director general at the Association of Unit Trust and Investment Funds, said: "PIA board members and our staff have worked very closely... on these proposals. We are pleased they have been approved and look forward to seeing the

The key elements to be disclosed under the new rules will be a statement of both initial and on-going charges - in cash terms - on a nominal lump sum. Fund managers will have to provide an additional table showing the build-up of charges on an investment over time.

Where some companies, for

example M&G, impose exit charges on savers who liquidate their investments early, the cost of doing so will also have to be

disclosed. A further example will have to be given of the charges in cases where the original investment has doubled. This is seen as important in that the annual management levy is imposed on the overall hump sum, which may be growing thanks to investment

The information will be in a document handed to potential investors before they buy a product. Exceptions will be allowed where the investment is bought over the telephone or by

Mr Peffer said: "It may be to investors' advantage to carry out a transaction quickly. In that case, delaying the purchase un-til a key features document is sent out may not be to their benefit.

A cooling-off period will be allowed for investors who want

The PIA's decision brings to an end years of wrangling between financial regulators and the unit and investment trust industry, which regularly attacked as unworkable earlier proposals by the PIA and its predecessors.

Hundreds of millions of pounds of unit and investment trusts are sold each month to new investors.

Supporters of the new disclosure regime have long argued that savers should be told exactly how much an investment will cost them. The life industry was forced to tell its clients what the cost of commissions and other charges are on a life insurance or pension product.

Cable directive due next week

MATHEW HORSMAN

Adoption of the European Commission's cable directive, aimed at liberalising telecommunications markets in Europe, has been delayed by a week for "purely technical reasons," according to sources in Brussels. It is now lodged with the translation service and will not be officially adopted until after the weekend, the sources

The subject of an intense lobbying campaign from BT, the di-rective is aimed at ensuring competition in what the Commission calls non-reserved telecoms services - including home shopping, multimedia, closed business networks and data transmission. It does not cover voice telephony, which is due to be completely liberalised by 1 January 1998

BT had hoped that the Commission would adopt an amendment - as proposed by the European Parliament - that would have given telecoms operators the right to broadcast over their phone networks. But the Commission declined to accept the parliamentary amendment, to BT's regret. The company said yesterday it would have preferred to see the Commission supporting the view expressed by the European Parliament.

Currently, BT is forbidden to use its network to broadcast audio-visual services in the UK un-til at least 2002, when the prohibition is to be reviewed. Last week, BT and the Labour Party unveiled an agreement under which the ban would be lifted in exchange for BT cabling every school, hospital, university and local authority in the

country. The directive is scheduled to go into effect in 1996, bringing early competition to markets where the main telecoms operator has a monopoly or dominant position. The EC is keen to encourage competitors such as cable companies and utilities to develop alternative telecoms infrastructures in advance of full

liberalisation in 1998, The freedom to provide nonreserved services would also extend to telecom companies from other EC countries.

At home, BT already faces direct competition in voice telephony from the cable industry and from other service providers such as Mercury. It argues that the rest of Europe needs to move more quickly toward building a liberalised market.

The Commission has taken a hard line with Continental telecoms operators, insisting for example on concessions from Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom before approving their controversial joint venture. But BT has been frustrated with the slow pace of reform.

new rule

"There is no way of

making a sensible

an ordinary and a

simply a way of

one-off

distinction between

special dividend - the

name of the latter is

indicating that it is a

business



A dubious distinction with a weighty impact

First there was the enhanced scrip dividend. Then the share buy-back. Now we have the special dividend, the latest examino easy solution. The tax benefits are rooted slim and margins even slimmer, is increasples of which are contained in yesterday's takeover bids by Lloyds Bank for TSB and North West Water for Norweb. The City's ingenuity in depriving the Exchequer of cor-poration tax and delivering the benefits to tax-exempt shareholders (mostly pension funds), knows no bounds.

All these schemes involve entirely legitimate use of the existing tax system - but on a scale and in a way that was surely not anticipated by officials. The basic principle is simple enough: cash payments by companies to tax-exempt institutions among their shareholders are topped up with a tax credit. This seems entirely reasonable in the ordinary course of dividend payments. But when it involves very substantial repayment of capital, sometimes linked to a takeover bid, it is open to abuse. With a special dividend, institutions claim a tax credit that increase the value of the payout by 25 per cent. On the face of it, this is a ridiculous and unjus-tifiable subsidy that threatens to drain bil-lions from the Treasury as companies and their advisers catch onto it.

But the problem, as the Institute for Fiscal Studies pointed out in its Green Budget, is that there is no way of making a sensible distinction between an ordinary and a special dividend - the name of the latter is simply a way of indicating that it is a one-off.

Banning them would simply switch corpo-

in the longstanding use of advance corpo-ration tax. This is a misnomer. ACT is in fact an advance payment of shareholders' income tax, and that is why tax-exempt institutions receive a credit on their dividends.

The only sensible way for the Chancellor to get out of this hole without causing chaos is to reform the taxation of dividends to remove the distortions caused by these credits. But when Stephen Dorrell flirted with the idea last year while at the Treasury he was jumped on from a great height. The market's reaction to Norman Lamont's Elbn raid on the institutions tax credits in the 1993 Budget had already signalled the dangers for a Tory government of tampering in this area. The chances of Kenneth Clarke having another go appear slim, but reform is overthe.

Lloyds' techno love-in with TSB

Cir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds, Shardly comes across as an archetypal techno-freak, but in business today you have to be. Information technology, and the competitive advantages it can bring to retail banking, is one of the main driving forces behind the proposed link-up with the TSB. That and size. Sir Brian believes that suc-

ingly about leveraging size.

With this deal, Lloyds and TSB hope to have stolen a march on their rivals by achieving, at a stroke, a much bigger branch network and customer base along with considerable scope for paring back costs. But that of course is the rationale behind all such big mergers. The hard part is pulling it off. Technology will play a decisive role here.

Sir Brian becomes almost delirious when describing the competitive edge of Cheltenham & Gloucester's information retrieval system, which Lloyds is now applying throughout its mortgage business. Now the idea is to take the best banking IT system, probably the TSB's, for the combined group. The potential for back-office savings, by extending an already developed system, would be significant, possibly worth more than £100m a year by itself. The elimination of duplication in back-office and headquarter staff and functions, before even getting onto the branch network, suggests that Sir Brian and his TSB counterpart, Peter Ellwood, are, if anything, being rather cautious

on the cost-saving potential.

Rather than the £350m of annual savings, or 9 per cent of the combined cost base, that they are talking about, the real potential may be closer to £500m a year. No wonder many analysts expect the combined animal to achieve a stock market valuation of

companies, £13bn, subtract the £1bn special dividend, and watch the upside.

Assuming it can be got through the competition authorities, this is a superb deal for loyds. The geographical fit, with TSB's Northern and Scottish bias complementing Lloyd's Southern stronghold, suggest that the branch reductions may not have to be severe. The strength of the fit, and the fact that Sir Brian and Mr Ellmore are having the banking equivalent of a love-in, makes the task of any late rival bidder pretty diffi-cult. The agreed nature of the bid, and the fact that Lloyds/TSB will not have a dominant share of any market, should reduce the chances of an MMC referral.

NatWest gears up for Gartmore

Cir Brian Pitman is not the only one with a glint in the eye. The boys from Nat West are on heat again. They are to be found serenading ardently beneath Gartmore's balcony. Twice recently they have lunged up the aisle, only to see Barings and Warburg car-ried off by a rival suitor. Will it be third time lucky? NatWest is impatient to push on with its plans to be a global investment banking powerhouse. The money is there and it intends to use it. There is no talk of a share buy-back at the top of NatWest. Once the

£15bn. To see the potential just take the combined present stock market value of the two companies, £13bn, subtract the £1bn special chest will be brimfull. Reading the runes, NatWest is preparing for purchases on both sides of the Atlantic. There appear to be three thoughts driving NatWest strategy. Strong corporate finance brings essential value to a securities house. A large fund management operation enhances the profitability of a bank's retail business. And to win global investment banking deals you must have a strong presence in the US. Gartmore would fit NatWest's fund man-

agement needs admirably, despite the fancy prices on demand these days. Corporate finance in London poses more of a problem, mainly because there are few eligible partners. NatWest Markets presents an uncomfortable imbalance, with a strong equities business and a corporate finance side still scarred by the traumas of County. It is to the US, however, that shareholders will be looking nervously. It has proven a graveyard for British investment banks. But those with global ambitions realise that there is no half-hearted approach to New York. This applies equally to BZW, Deutsche, SBC and UBS. The only question is who moves first. NatWest, which already has the biggest US equities operation among foreigners, appears to be mulling either buying a medium-sized securities house, or a jointventure, buying part of a US firm or setting up a new partnership. Investors should brace themselves.

nit trusts de to reve naging

Exchange told to delay new rules on top pay

PETER RODGERS

Leading companies have been pressing the Stock Exchange to delay implementation of new rules on top pay - due to be published today - for more consultations, particularly about the powers and independence of remuneration committees.

The new rules, based on the work of the Greenbury Committee on executive pay, are in the form of alterations to the Stock Exchange yellow book, which governs the conduct of listed companies.

One key area of difficulty is the Greenbury committee's Greenbury Committee in Janproposal that remuneration committees should be composed of independent non-executive directors, with a chairman accountable directly

to shareholders. This appears to conflict with the current legal position that all directors are responsible for the running of a company,

with the chairman speaking for the board as a whole.

There are concerns that the new rules will turn the independence of remuneration committees into a legally binding requirement, without addressing the conflict with the more general obligation of all directors to the company.

This is one of a number of areas where companies believe the new rules are likely to be too inflexible. The rules have been drawn up after two months of consultation since a draft of the changes was published on 31 The CBI, which set up the

uary, is broadly supporting the Stock Exchange's revisions but many of its members would prefer to have seen a greater emphasis on voluntary codes. It also emerged that the CBI

is pushing for Budget rethink on tax treatment of share options. guard in the summer when

Kenneth Clarke abolished capital gains tax relief on share op-

The CBI believes he should switch to levying income tax on profits when shares are sold rather than when options are exercised. Without the change there will be a disincentive to managers to bold shares in the companies they work for, because of their liability for tax on the unsold shares immediately the options are exercised.

Meanwhile, Mr Clarke was threatened with a backbench revolt when parliament reassembles unless he reverses his abolition of the tax relief.

And at a Bow Group meeting in Blackpool, Tory backbencher David Shaw and stock broker John Marshall MP linked with Lord Wolfson, Chairman of Next, and Archie Norman, chief executive of Asda to attack abolition. Mr Norman described the chan-Employers were caught off cellor's decision as "a simple



Archie Norman: accused the Chancellor of a 'cock-up' in his decision to abolish tax relief on employee share options

Clarke raises rates question

PAUL WALLACE **Economics Editor**

Kenneth Clarke has discussed the question of a cut in interest rates with Eddie George, for the first time since the minutes of their monthly meetings started being published last year.

In his meeting with the Governor of the Bank of England on 7 September, the Chancellor said that "although there was no case for an increase in interest rates this month, there was also, in his view, no case for

reducing them".
Geoffrey Dicks, UK economist at NatWest Markets, suggested that Mr Clarke could be seeking to change the terms of the debate. "It is significant the Chancellor now feels that the question has to be raised."

Mr Clarke said that the outlook for inflation had improved. to pick up after a period in There was now "very strong evidence that growth had slowed worked off, although the posto a more sustainable rate". Fur- sibility of somewhat weaker thermore, cost pressures from

higher input prices "had so far been absorbed more than expected, and there was little to suggest that they would not continue to be in the future".

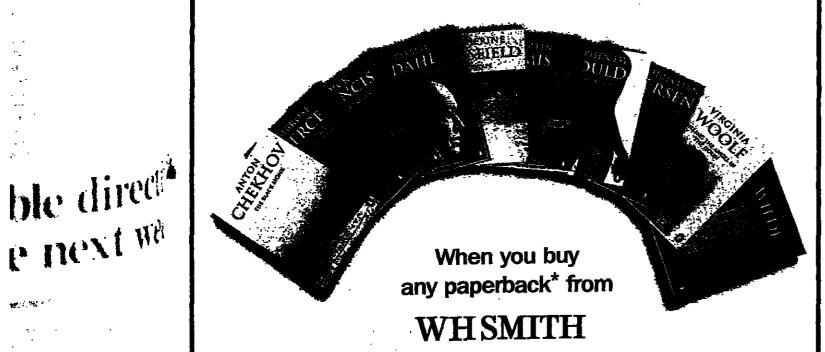
According to the Chancellor, "the main potential cause for concern was the strength of the monetary data, which remained puzzling at a time when activity was more subdued". The Governor took a more

pessimistic line on costs: "Despite much talk of easing cost pressures, there was not much firm evidence of this." The pressures to pass on cost in-creases remained "very strong".

Mr George conceded that economic activity had softened through the summer. However the probability "was that final demand would continue to grow fairly steadily". This would allow the overall rate of growth growth could not be ruled out.

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This could be last chance for Clarke

If new Labour paid homage to the memory of Harold Wil-son in Brighton, the Tory party conference in Blackpool is haunted by the political grandmaster's most famous line - a week is a long time in politics. Alan Howarth's defection has shaken the received political wisdom that John Major's gov-ernment can run till spring 1997. With only four by-elec-tions necessary to destroy their outright majority, the Conservatives have now to reckon on a possible election next year.

The upshot is that when Kenneth Clarke addresses the conference today, he will do so in the knowledge that the ground has shifted under his feet since his trip to the International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington. Before Mr Howarth became the new Labour MP for Stratford, the working assumption was that the Chancellor still had two Budgets to go. Now Mr Clarke has to reckon on the possibility that this may be the only shot

The changing odds on the electoral timetable seem certain to reshape the budgetary arithmetic. Yesterday's *green budget" presented by the Institute for Fiscal Studies and Goldman Sachs held out the prospect of a low-key return to tax cuts this November, worth no more than £2-3bn. For the real fireworks, we would have to wait for the 1996 Budget, when according to Andrew Dilnot, director of the IFS, we could see "some really big tax cuts".

Charitable and broad-minded though Kenneth Clarke may be, he is unlikely to wish to endow Gordon Brown with such a handsome legacy. By highlighting the risk that this may be the Tories' last chance to restore their tax-cutting credentials, Mr Howarth has raised the likelihood that the Government will cut every conceivable corner to deliver the goods on tax cuts this November

That is the political imperative, but not for the first time a Chancellor finds himself caught between a rock and a hard place. Two weeks ago, the City balked at a gilts auction for the first time. And yet the Bank of England will have to sell £3bn worth of government debt every month - necessitating an extra planned totals. auction next February - if it is to meet a borrowing require-ment that has stubbornly refused to fall so far this year.

The "green budget" forecast of £27bn for the current financial year, 1995/6, is a far cry from the £21.5bn predicted by the Treasury last November, but is itself less than several City forecasts. Whatever the precise outlook for this year, it is hardly the most promising background for a Chancellor to play fast and loose with the public finances. The last thing Kenneth Clarke needs is a crisis in the gilts market accompanied by a stern lec-



ECONOMIC VIEW PAUL WALLACE

tion in planned spending was

made in the November 1993

Budget for the financial year

that ended this spring. This was supposed to lead to a cut

in real terms of just over one per

cent in 1994/5. Instead, spend-

ing rose by that amount in real

terms. Lower than expected in-

flation meant that the cash

amounts available to depart-

ments bought more than the

In brandishing his cuts in lanned expenditure in the last

Budget, Mr Clarke in effect

pushed the real cut forward to

this year. Yet once again, low-er than expected inflation is

turning that real cut into a real

rise of about half a per cent ac-

cording to the "green budget".

Even that modest rise has already made for huge unpopu-

larity in key areas of public

service - witness the revolt of

education spending.

parents this spring over cuts in

what Mr Waldegrave and Mr Clarke say, public expenditure

will increase in real terms next

year. Current plans for key areas like health belong in the fiction rather than non-fiction depart-

ment of a library. The Govern-

ment is not, in practice, going to blow its manifesto pledge with

the current projected decline of

Chancellor with only one way

out of his dilemma: to switch

taxation. His apparent flirtation

with the idea of a windfall util-

ities tax is suggestive of the po-

tential for raiding the corporate

sector to finance a hefty cut in

personal taxation. Restoring

the cut of 2 per cent made in

corporation tax in the 1991

Budget would, for example, eventually yield £2bn a year. A political Budget this year

has always been seen as a rac-

ing certainty. But nothing con-

centrates the mind like the

prospect of execution. The odds

on a Budget that moves heav-

en and earth to cut income tax

without compensating cuts in public spending have drasti-

This would seem to leave the

one and a half per cent.

The reality is that no matter

Treasury had planned.

ture from Eddie George on the need for an offsetting rise in interest rates to make up for fiscal irresponsibility. The Governor of the Bank of England made such a warning explictly to the Treasury Select Committee over the summer.

One way or another, therefore, the Chancellor has to present a credible forecast for the public sector borrowing requirement next year which shows it continuing to decline. In last year's Budget, the Treasury projected a deficit of £13bn, subsequently raised to £16bn in its economic forecast in June.

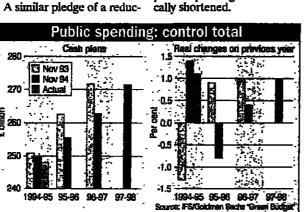
The "green budget" forecast of a more or less acceptable £17bn depends on achieving a real cut of half a per cent in the "control total" of public expenditure targeted by ministers in the public spending round. By contrast, the Ernst & Young Item Club, which uses the Trea-

Whatever they say, the reality is that spending will rise in real terms next year

sury model, projected earlier this week a PSBR of £25bn even without any tax cuts.

Faced with this prospect, it is no wonder that the mild William Waldegrave has been reincarnated in the unlikely guise of chief axe-swinger in his new job as Chief Secretary. Spending must fall: that is his battle-cry; that is the Cabinet's new faith.

Yet the idea that public spending will fall in real terms in an election year seems the height of implausibility. As the charts below demonstrate, Kenneth Clarke did cut public expenditure in his November 1994 Budget. But the cut was in the A similar pledge of a reduc-



Edited by Magnus Grimond

The future for gilts still looks good

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

On the face of it, the revelation that the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, and Bank of England Governor Eddie George are in no mood to cut interest rates is bad news for gilts. But few really expected any reduction and on most counts the nediate outlook remains good.

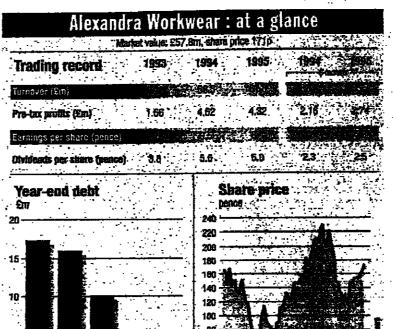
The market for government bonds is more homogeneous than that for equities and marginally less erratic. Its prospects are highly dependent on what the market thinks will happen to inflation and interest rates, although the market also takes account of the relative attractions of UK bonds to UK equities and to US and German bonds.

On inflation, the 1990 commitment to keep a lid on prices has survived devaluation in 1992 and has not been seriously challenged since. There is reason to believe that interest rates have reached their peak in the current eco-nomic cycle, while inflation rates could also be close to the top. Yet gilt-edged stocks with 10 years to maturity, currently yielding between 8.25 and 8.5 per cent, are discounting worse to come. The real rate of return of 5 per cent is high and attractive by historic standards.

The state of government finances could cause worries for the market. The public sector borrowing requirement is likely to overshoot the target this year by anything between £5bn and £9bn, but the longer-term outlook is better. The Government is likely to finance tax cuts by cutting spending rather than in-creased borrowing. Meanwhile, fears of an incoming Labour government be-having irresponsibly have been quelled by the iron resolve of Tony Blair to win the confidence of financial markets.

Institutional demand for gilts should also hold up. in spite of last month's wobble, when the auction was undersubscribed for the first time. Share prices could begin to look vulnerable once the current takeover froth subsides, increasing the attractions of bonds. Further underpinning should come from overseas investors. Nikko, the giant Japanese bank, expects Japanese institutions to buy more gilts following further recent relaxation of controls on outward investment.

Together, the evidence suggests that this is no time to reduce gilt holdings.



Workwear firm recovering poise

Alexandra Workwear has been attempting to recover its poise ever since demand for its uniforms and its share price fell off a cliff, forcing a dividend cut in 1992.

The atmosphere now is very different from the heady 1980s, but against the background of a sluggish and highly competitive market, the company has done well to raise profits 27 per cent to £2.74m in the 28 weeks to 12 August.

Trading margins improved from 6.8 to 8.2 per cent as Alexandra successfully clawed back the rise in raw material costs that led to disappointing results last year.

Price rises accounted for between 4 and 5 points of the 7 per cent increase in turnover to £35.7m. The rest came

from efforts to upgrade products like boiler-suits, with resulting margin improvements.

The company says that the increase in raw materials has now levelled off, but it is not banking on last year's 8 per cent hike being reversed. Meanwhile, the market continues to do it few favours, with little sign that the caution of buyers is lifting.
Other factors, however, should con-

tinue to underpin its recovery this year. For a start, Alexandra is without the start-up costs incurred in 1994 on four new shops. It should also see a reduction in finance charges as gearing, 15 per cent in August, falls close to zero by the year end.

Further out, next month's expected consolidation of four sites on to one at Bristol should eventually produce cost savings of £500,000 a year.

Alexandra has built up a commanding 35 per cent of its market on the back

of its quick-response service, saving the customer the need to carry large stocks. But that may not be enough to protect it in another downturn, even if the balance sheet has been restored to bealth. Profits of £5.4m this year would put the shares on a prospective price/earnings multiple of 16. High enough.

Pioneer follows the Ashanti trail

Pioneer Goldfields will be following a trail blazed last year by Lonrho's Ashanti when it comes to the stock market next month. Both have Ghana, West Africa, as the focus of their operations, an area to which investors have hitherto had little access.

Like Ashanti, Pioneer will be a substantial group. Depending on the final offer price, expected to be between \$9.50 and \$10.50 a share, it will be capitalised at between \$712m and \$788m. Ac-cording to yesterday's pathfinder prospectus, that would put a value of between \$77.40 and \$85.60 on each of the group's 9.2m ounces of proven and probable gold reserves. A fifth of the group is being offered for sale by the parent company, Pioneer Group of the US. The notional yield at the offer price is I per cent, with first dealings expected

on 8 November.
Pioneer offers a relatively low cost, low risk way into West African gold mining. Cash costs at \$196 an ounce for the six months to June are well below a world average, nearer \$250, and the heap leaching process it employs is rel-atively straightforward compared with Ashanti's deep mined gold. That is illustrated by the latter's recent warning that it would miss its production forecasts this year after disruptions caused by drought and floods.

Production is set to rise from the current 235,000 ounces to 400,000 by 1998, making it one of the top 20 mines in the world. But investors should beware the political risk and, despite the differences, bear in mind the fate of Ashanti, where the share price is right back where it started last year.

Institutions dismiss the restructuring of Australia's biggest retailer as a 'diversion'

Coles plan fails to set investors alight

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Coles Myer, Australia's biggest retailer, has announced a multi-billion dollar restructuring of its entire operations, in one of the largest series of transactions in the country's corporate

But it failed to satisfy major investors who are pushing for a boardroom shake-up, because the restructuring failed to address shareholders' concerns about conflicts of interest among directors. The company said the reor-

ganisation could see the creation of several new public

companies, further asset sales, and share buybacks that might take up to a year to complete. Coles said that its plans would "fundamentally change the face of the Australian retail market". The company added that Solomon Lew, Coles' biggest shareholder, will relin-

quish his role as executive chairman and become non-executive The retailer has been under pressure from institutional in-

vestors to appoint an independent chairman and make board changes after details of a secret share transaction were revealed last month.

The share transaction, which and create several new public Investments, the State Superwas revealed only after the sacked finance director, Philip Bowman, went public with his concerns, cost Coles A\$18m (£9.3m) and benefited a company associated with Mr Lew. A statement by Coles said

that details of the restructuring would take some time to be finalised.

"The restructuring will realise far-reaching benefits for all stakeholders and shareholders, employees, suppliers and customers," the statement said. "The board's preferred structure is to separate the major businesses within the group

companies, with separate management and independent

Coles said that without cross-

common holding company, these public companies would be able to function independently. But large institutional investors were not satisfied with the restructuring and said they would seek replacements for some of Coles current directors. at the annual general meeting on 21 November. The Australia Mutual Provident Society (AMP), Australia's biggest in-stitutional investor, said AMP

annuation Corp and Bankers Trust Australia would seek the

"I don't think it really solves ownership, a common parent or anything," said George Batsakis, analyst with J.B. Were. He felt that Coles' underlying profspective of the new-look structure. Another broker said: "Breaking it up and buybacks are just a diversion.

A retail analyst said that while a proxy battle between the company and major shareholders was still likely, it was too early to say if this would occur at the annual meeting or later.

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Launch costs hurt Chrysler

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Chrysler, America's third largest carmaker, saw thirdquarter profits decline 46 per cent from a year ago as the cost of new launches mounted.

The company, under fire from potential bidder Kirk Kerkorian to improve shareholder value, did not help its case by reporting earnings down from \$651m to \$354m. The profits translated to 91 cents a share, compared with \$1.76 in the third quarter of 1994. Chrysler said profits were

lower mainly due to reduced production of minivans during the changeover to a new model, costs related to the minivan, higher rebates and other buyer incentives, and the deterioration of the Mexican economy.

Traditionally, third quarters are troughs for America's big three carmakers because of the cost of model changeovers, vacation-slowed production and

Chrysler's profits grew from the second quarter to the third, and July-September was the third-best third quarter in company history, Robert Eaton, the chairman, said. "Customer response to our new minivans has been outstanding, and we expect to be near full minivan production capacity by the end of the fourth quarter."

Chrysler's revenue for the

quarter rose to \$12bn from \$11.7bn in the same 1994 period. In the first nine months, Chrysler profits have fallen to \$1.08bn, or \$2.82 a share, from \$2.5bn, or \$6.92 a share, in the

\$2.5bn, or \$6.92 a share, in the same 1994 period. Revenue was relatively flat at \$38.1bn, against \$38bn a year ago.

Chrysler, which has been linked with a possible tie-up with Sweden's Volvo, achieved combined sales in the US and Canada of \$60.000 unbides in Canada of 560,000 vehicles in the quarter, a market share of

13.6 per cent, up 0.1 per cent.
Internationally, Chrysler's retail sales for the third quarter totalled 40,120 units, up 27 per cent over the 1994 period. Chrysler sold 21,918 vehicles in Europe in the third quarter, an increase of 36 per cent over the same period in 1994.

The automaker approved an increase in its common stock repurchase programme during the quarter, from \$1bn to \$2bn to be completed by the end of 1996. It said that through the first nine months it repurchased 17.4 million shares of its common stock at a cost of \$782m.

The US's biggest carmaker, General Motors, reports profits on Tuesday, when it is also expected to show a year-on-year fall. Along with Ford, the big three's combined third quarter profits are likely to total about l.2bn, down from about \$2.3bn a year ago.

35.7m (33.3m) 2.74m (2.16m) 5.3p (4.3p) 250 (23p) A F Buight & Co (1) 10.5m (9.03m) 0.66m (0.50m) 1.53p (1.26p) 23.7m (21.2m) 1.77m (1.38m) 5,4p (4.2p) 0.42m (-0.03m) 1.62p (-0.16p) el (nli)

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY SBC's style disarms the critics

From the September issue of Euromoney comes the announcement of the prestigious Deals of the Year awards. And the winner is ...

The judges have been lavish in their praise for the Swiss bank. "No single overthe-counter option has shaken the City of London so greatly, interpreted its rules with such abandon, or troubled so many lawyers as the cost-saving derivative used by Trafalgar House in its abortive attempt to take over Northern Electric.

You will recall that the "contracts for differences" gave Trafalgar options over the shares in seven regional electricity companies, including 3.35 million shares in the target company, before the bid was announced. When the options were eventually closed out Trafalgar had earned £6m towards its costs.

The judges were particularly impressed by the way SBC handled the ensuing outrage over the ethics of the deal, noting that the most vociferous critic was SG Warburg, which was immediatekly gobbled up by the Swiss bank.

Alas, Sir Patrick Sergeant and his crew no longer throw the best party in town. This week's International Monetary Fund jamboree in Washington has been deprived of Euromoney's legendary re-ceptions, no doubt thanks to last week's profits warning from the publisher. Instead there were just two low-key lunchtime receptions

"They have not registered on the landscape," remarked an observer. "Champagne and peanuts," agreed a

Cedric Brown's now-infa-

mous defence of his 75 per cent pay rise last year has saddled British Gas with an

dia relations remains vacant with the salary on offer rising

Coming on top of gas

intractable problem - how to

improve the corporate image

when no one will take on the

job. The post of head of me-



The arrival of Rupert Pennant-Rea (above) at Roddy Dewe's bouse of gloss was only matter of time. The shadowy spin doctor and the disgraced former Deputy Governor of the Bank of England go back a long way. Their respective families were even aquainted in their native Zimbabwe.

But the two became firm friends when Mr Pennant-Rea was editor of The Economist, lunching together regularly.

They are both obsessed by national debt," explains one insider. As a non-executive director of Dewe Rogerson, Mr Pennant-Rea is certain to get considerably more than £5,000 paid to other non-executives for the four meetings a year. "He will be developing business on the capital markets," said Mr Dewe. "There is a hell of a lot more to be done in marketing debt." Rivals were less charitable. "Bonking was never an obstacle to becoming a successful PR man," said one.

price rises and service cuts, Mr Brown's I've-earned-itso-I'll-keep-it approach went straight into the PR training manual as an example of how it should not be done.

Yesterday a senior public relations figure confided that he had turned down £100,000 to do the job. Not so long ago the head hunters were trawling the market with less than £50,000.

Once asked to say something amusing at a dinner party, Noel Coward replied: "Australia". However, this is not a joke that will go down well at Lloyds Bank on the return to this country of Geraldine Davies, Having built a powerful role for herself as one of the bank's corporate mouthpieces, Ms Davies chose to go on holiday Down Under just before the big one broke. Colleagues are trembling.

The Fengshui Network which promotes the under-standing of the Chinese prac-tice of placing of objects in a building to create the best harmony- is flying over Bill Spears, the West's leading authority, to lecture British

architects on how it is done. The Network insists that Mr Spears will be required listening, claiming that both Richard Branson and Sir Richard Greenbury are already disciples. Mr Branson took spiritual advice before launching Virgin's Hong Kong route. Sir Richard has apparently been convinced that the impressive performance of the Marks & Spencer Hong Kong store is all down to fengshui.

market report/shares

DATA BANK FT-SE 100 3474.3+14.2 FT-SE 250 3919.8+16.6 FT-SE 350 <u>1737.</u>3 +7.2 SEAQ VOLUME 791.2m shares,

31,198 bargains

Gilts Index

Normal service was resumed on dealing screens across the City yesterday thanks to the strong overnight rally on Wall Street, and yet more bectic action on the takeover front. The market's nervous system, however, has yet to recover from the previous session's dash for the lifeboats by market makers, and dealers are preying that today's inflation figures for September will con-

tain nothing but good news.

Events on Wall Street, though, are largely determining the direction of share prices in London, and there are fears that a poor third quarter company reporting season in America could send the FT-SE 100 index heading south for the winter.

Market-makers took stock of Wall Street's overnight performance, which saw the Dow

Jones finish just five points

adrift at the end of a day when prices were falling so fast at one time that limits on program trad-

London prices opened slightly softer yesterday, and then forged ahead as investors digested the latest raft of takeer news involving Lloyds Bank for TSB, North West for Norweb, UUNET Technologies of the US for Unipalm, and Fisons throwing the towel in its fight against Rhone Poulenc. The FT-SE 100 index closed

ميكنا من الاعل

14.2 points higher at 3,474.3, having been up at 3,408.9 just before Wall Street opened. The strong tone was evident right through the market, and the FT-SE 250 gamed 16.6 to 3,919.8. Volume trading was reasonably good with almost 800 million shares changing hands in more than 31,000 deals.

The appetite for more bids among dealers is insatiable, and the rumour mill about where the action will be is in overdrive. There is hardly a share sector which does not come with several strands of



MARKET REPORT

10p to 483p. The terms of Lloyds deal

were well received amid heavy trading. Almost 18 million

shares were traded in Lloyds,

which climbed 49p to 769p, and

more than 26 million were dealt in TSB, up 19p to 369p. Volume trading in Norweb,

Prices forge ahead as takeover action intensifies

Gartmore, the fund manlysts believe will be a boon for agement group, is the hot the company and help it comfavourite soon to be taken unpete more effectively against der the wings of an adoptive

the Netherlands or the UK. Shares climbed 10p to 276p with dealers convinced that the 75 per cent stake owned by Banque Indosuez will be sold for upwards of £400m before the month is out to either NatWest Bank, up 10.5p to 612p, Dresdner Bank or ABN Amro, the Dutch owner of the Hoare Govett firm of stock-

parent from either Germany,

NatWest's advisers are understood to be burning copious amounts of midnight oil to thrash out a deal, which ana-

going through the books as North West Water, down 22p JOHN SHEPHERD to 573p, raided the market for stock after increasing its take-

North West's raid was very successful. Investors said yes faster than bank managers at the TSB, and North West picked up 25 per cent of Nor-web's shares. The company is set to be back in the market this Barclays, 2p firmer at 727p. Bank shares, which ran up sharply on Monday on the morning in an attempt to take original announcement of the original announcement of the merger between Lloyds and TSB were subjected to some profit-taking. Standard Chartered gave up 5p to 481p, and Royal Bank of Scotland lost its stake to 29.9 per cent.

Norweb is now recommending the offer, and dealers believe the higher offer will prove too much for the pockets of Texas Energy Partners. The consensus of opinion, however, is that the Americans will continue to strive to own a regional electricity company and London Electricity, which shot up 35p to 898p, is the favourite target. East Mid-lands, another of the Recs yet

up 61p to £11.47, was also high to attract a bid, closed 16p betwith more than 35.57 million ter at 877p.

Rumours about GEC, off a penny to 328.5p, bidding for a Rec resurfaced with Yorkshire Electricity, up 16p to 894p, the favourite target.

The market is also waiting for bid action to break out among water utilities, particularly a move soon by Lyonnais des Eaux of France for Northumbrian Water, 5p firmer at 990p.
Unipalm, the centre of a re-

cent storm of anger when it announced that takeover terms would be considerably less than the prevailing 600p mar-ket price, added 4p to 414p on an all-share, £97m recom-mended offer by UUNET.

Shares in BAT Industries were again in demand. More than 11.5 million were traded and the price advanced 11p to 544p on talk of a break-up bid. Pearson, also seen as a bid candidate, added 6p to 608p.

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's divide

THE INDEPENDENT INDEX

FT-SE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterling Rates 04 UK Stock Market Report 01 UK Company News 03 Wall St Report 20 Poreign Exchange 03 Tokyo Market 21

MARKET LEADERS: TOP 20 VOLUMES

35,000 NFC 35,000 BAT ands. 20,000 Vocature 17,000 Seam 15,000 STR

09.00 3471.9 up 11.8

FT-SE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR

by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/carnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's carnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other details: xr Ex rights x Ex-dividend u Untisted Securities Market s Suspended PP Partly Paid pan Nil Paid Shares.

Source: Funda,

The index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from Seaq. Simply dial 0891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 6891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below.

Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The Independent Index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 123 333. For assistance, call our helpline 071 873 4375 (9.30am - 5.30pm). Calls cost 39p per minute (cheep rate), and 49p at all other times. Call charges include VAT

14,000 Sandays 11,000 British Gas 10,000 Hanson 10,000 SmiC Beed

12.00 3468.3 up 8.2

6,400 6,400

14.00 3472.0 up 11.9 15.00 3476.8 up 16.7

16.00 3474.3 up 14,2

Shares in Scholl, the healthcare products group under siege from rebel shareholders led by Julian Tregar, hardened a permy to 230p after an-noming approaches had been received from several interested parties. Talks are at an early stage, and the compa-ny stressed that there was no certainty of a bid being made.

One of the approaches is from a private French pharmaceuti-cal business.

TAKING STOCK

Finding a vacant room at top London hotels is proving difficult these days, but find-ing buyers for hotels is proving to be easier. Following the sale of the Ritz to the Barclay twins, it now transpires that someone wants to check into the smaller and less glamorous Park Lane Hotel. The shares, one of the first draft on the new Ofex market, are trading at around £7, implying

92.63 -0.15 SHARE SPOTLIGHT

ing had to be put into effect. takeover speculation attached. ## 1.7 1.65 | 162 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262 | 262

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3.55 STAR AND GARTER (nap)

5.00 Sue's Return

REDCAR

1.45 Nikita's Star 2,20 Trazi

2.55 Empty Quarter

SIS All pages

3.25 Sovereign's Crown

HYPERION

GOING: Firm (Good to Firm in places). DRAW ADVANTAGE: High from 5f to 1m.

STALLS: Straight course — centre; remainder — inside.

Left-hand, tight course, with a one nile straight.

Course is off A1085, Sustion (Durington - Subhurn line) 330yd, ADMISSION: (Tub 512; Grandstand £7 (OAPs 53.50); Course \$2.50 (OAPs 51.25). CAR PARE: Prec.

All nees

ILRADING TEANNERS WITH RUNNERS: Mrs M Reveley — 54 winners from 364 runners gives a success ratio of 14.9% and a loss to a 51 level stake of 513.16; M H Basterby — 20 winners, 200 runners, 9.78%, -554.71; J Berry — 18 winners, 162 runners, 11.1%, -535.72; Sir M Prescott — 15 winners, 42 runners, 35.7%, +518.70.

ILRADING JOCKEYS R Darley — 65 winners, 301 rides, 30.9%, +544.73; G Darley — 65 winners, 113 rides, 17.7%, -57.30; Paul Eddery — 15 winners, 81 rides, -45.80.5; Desa McKeowe — 17 winners, 146 rides, 11.6%, -544.01.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Nutha's Star (1.15); Therbea, Artic Zipper (3.25) winners in the LAST SEVEN DATS: None, LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Therbea (3.25) has been sent 328 miles by B R Milinam from Restableure, Decon.

12 03550 LA FINITAMENT (1.1) Externa models prime and a constant a 12 declared a 12 declared a BETTING: 9-2 Ecstatic Minden, 5-1 Labord, 11-2 Needle Knot, 6-1 Tapintime, 7-1 Quality, 8-1 Walterman Bounde, 9-1 Receil To Mind, 10 Gallery Blade, 12 Nithin's Star, 14 Wire Act, 16 others

| 2.55 | TEES COMPONENTS HANDICAP (CLASS D) | C4 |
| 2.55 | TEES COMPONENTS HANDICAP (CLASS D) | C4 |
| 320011 | SWPTY QUARTER (9) (C) Whoulish Saces But Habb) Gesters 3 to 2 (Seet ... L Dettod 3 to 2 00-256 | PERCY BRATCHWATE (5) (Brian Ventiley Continents 1:5) M Johnston 3 9 8 ... N Hills 12 2 11300 | HARMA (USA) (29) (D) (Handian Al Maktourn) D Notey 3 9 8 ... N Hills 12 5 21500 | TERTIUM (27) (D) (As C A Vices) P Chapple-Hyam 3 9 3 ... N Byan 15 5 21600 | TERTIUM (27) (D) (As C A Vices) P Chapple-Hyam 3 9 3 ... N Byan 15 6 150030 | ADMIRALS F LAME (23) (D) (Melter Gestermalier C Vistal 49 1 ... N Byan 15 6 150030 | ADMIRALS F LAME (23) (D) (Melter Gestermalier C Vistal 49 1 ... N Byan 15 7 0200 | GOLDEN POUND (USA) (20) Maktourn Al Maktourn) E Durbo 3 9 0 ... N Hills 12 9 150530 | FLASHY'S SON (26) (C) (K Leet G M Moore 7 8 13 ... J Etch 14 10 410-500 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 11 (1000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 11 (1000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 10 00000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 10 00000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 10 00000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 10 000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) (Don Erroto Incas) 3 8 9 ... J Etch 14 10 000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) 1 0 0... J Etch 14 10 000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) 1 0 0... J Etch 14 10 000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) 1 0 0... J Etch 14 10 000000 | BRODGE OF FREE (FF) (9) (Don Erroto Incas) 1 0 0... J Etch 14 10 0... J Etch 1

3.25 REDCAR TWO-YEAR-OLD TROPHY (CLASS B) £142,800 2YO 6f Penalty Value £81,824

21.4.2,000 270 67 Persattey Values 26.1,024

313 SOVERBIGH'S CROWN (LSA) (13) (b) (lesmonts Stud) I Gosten 9 0 ... 1. Detted 19
31.104 GOTHERBERS (57) (D) (Brean Yeardley Continental Ltd) M Johnston 8 13 ... 1. Wester 8

1. MELDORF (LIS (D) (Shelin Mohammed) D Loder 8 12 ... M. J. Honson 18
232421 CHYMAN KM (23) (I A N Wight) R Harmon 8 9 ... M. Roberts 5
024 ARCINE ZEPPER (USA) (LIS) (Times of Wigar) W O'Corman 8 7 C Duffield 11
10220 PRINCE ASLIA (23) (Mrs R.) Dames! M Johnston 8 7 TWILLIAMS 24
02. SCHOOL BOY (15) (Old School House Record Ltd) C Allen 8 7 ... Stephen Davies 24
02. SCHOOL BOY (15) (Old School House Record Ltd) C Allen 8 7 W Ryen 1
5 VENI VEX VICL (9) (R A Sector) M Heaston-Elis 8 7 LT Tatle 25
3104 WHAT FUN (5) (Woodes Racrof) R Harmon B 7 R Pestant 6

the one they have to beat. MELDORF is just about the least exposed numer in the field, he hacked up at Newcastle on his only start and the fact that Mich Kinane comes over for the ride cannot be ignored. Maid For The Hills, who is in the same ownership, looks to have been prepared especially for this and she is preferred to the other David Loder runner, Prancing, who will be pushed to turn round 'larmouth form with Geoff Wragfs's improving Anthelia. Blue the confortably beat Newdheirs Start in the valuable Weighter-bys Super Spirit at Newbury in July but Needham Star's only subsequent run, in a Group One roce in Ireland, suggests she's improved in the meanturie. Sovereign's Crown should be thereshous after his decisive Newbury win and subsequent third to highly-rated Even lop in a Usted race at Newmorket. Selection: MELDORF.

3.55 EBF MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (CLASS D) £5,500 C4 added 2YO 7F Penalty Value £4,549

- 12 declared -- 12 Deciated - PETTING: 3-1 Amenink, 4-1 Star And Garter, 5-1 Green Charter, 6-1 Starby Girl, 8-1 Jament Ja-Ragical, 10-2 Fairywings, 12-1 Clossic Affair, Straingle Ploy, 14-1 others

Commentary 0839 - 111 175

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N'MARKET 101 201 301 REDCAR 102 202 302

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charged of 1957 run charp was 1957 run of of trans. MS, 15 Mark Jose, leads 151 RB

the one they have to beat. MELDORF is just about the least exposed runner in the field

03550 LA FINDANGO (17) (Sherif Racing) M W Easterby 8 9.

1994: First Bite 2 9 0 W Ryan 1.1-2 (J Dunlop) 8 Ran

Elite division eludes Lammtarra

least possible energy will be held to his

detriment by many and he will strug-

his celebrity more to a sorry demise)

and, in another code, Desert Orchid,

retirement. The Godolphin team, un-

der whose aegis the colt ran, even tried

2.35 GREENE KING RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £13,000 added 1m 4f Penalty Value £8,511

2.13,100 80060 1m 47 Forlandy Varioe 25,511 (2-2-1)
11140 Sin OF SHAPE SHOT (15) (b) (Windburr Hokings) | Dunto 5 9 7 | Pat Eddary 2
240-152 SIDERSAMW (42) (b) (Shigh Eas Bin Machash) R Niehnat 5 9 2 | R Cochrase 3
002010 GUDE PRIE (654) (13) (b) (The Jumpot Partnership) | Hill 6 9 1 | W R Swinborr 30
00141-5 ACTINIS BURANE (100) (20) (f Andulas) G Harvood 4 8 13 | W R Swinborr 30
041030 MARED WELDONE (22) (c) Pack Welcome Partnership) M Februston-Gooley 3 8 9 | Red 6
040014 WARTESHAPEL (854) (15) (b) (The Queen Lord Houngdon 7 8 9 | D Harrison 1
11304 DRIVERHAM (22) (b) (P D Sami) Lady Houses 3 8 9 | M Darloy 6
240040 SECHAR VALE (85A) (15) (b) (Harrison B Hills 3 7 13 | W Carroso 6

Lammtarra's retirement on Tuesday came with the assertion that he had nothing more to prove. For some, though, nothing could be further from the truth.

With the chestnut's stirring deeds a Derby, King George and Arc - still fresh in the mind, there are some who insist he has by no means earned a place in the pantheon.

Peter Savill, Celtic Swing's owner has even used the dirty word of workmanlike to describe the colt, and suggested he should be returned to the track next season to further prove his mettle. In addition, the respected handicappers at Timeform believe Lammtarra can be elevated to the most exalted company only by an outstanding performance from a horse he has beaten. They have positioned him on a relatively plebian mark of 134 in their ratings.

"The final rating depends on how the placed horses in the Arc get on," Chris Williams, Timeform's senior Flat handicapper, said yesterday. "If reedom Cry [the Arc runner up] vins the Breeders Cup Turf then we can look at Lammarra in a better light.

This, however, does not wash with those who developed Lammarra, nor new horse. "He must be a great horse to achieve what Mill Reef did and I a mental problem which hastened his But Lammtarra cannot compare with some of the great champions of old. If they did it in different eras," he said. But Lammtarra cannot compare with we call him great, then we have to men-

NEWMARKET

2.35: The three to consider are Son Of Sharp Shot, who has been dropped 2lh for disappointing on unsuitably soft ground at Ascot, the progressive Seckar Vale, and DAN-

JING, who won a claimer over this

track and trip in great style last time.

3.10: LUNAR MUST ran on so

strongly over five furlongs here last

extra furiong and a 7lb weight rise.

3.40: EMPEROR JONES reop-

poses Harayir on favourable terms compared with Goodwood in Au-

gust, when the selection did not en-

4.15: REVERAND THICKNESS

has run well here before and was not disgraced when 16th in the

REDCAR

Cambridgeshire last time.

joy a clear run.

2.00 Lydhurst

2.35 Danjing

3.10 Lunar Misi

2.15 SUN PUNTERS CLUB NOVICE CLAIMING

HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 3YO 2m 1f

HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 3YO 2m 1f

1211 DOMENOUS DREAM (7) OF M For 11 2 D Bridgenber
65 REE MON 830 1HB 11 C G George
REE MON 830 MRISTON 10 13 D Satter (5)
REP ANGENCALE ARREST (25) R BROTHRON 10 12 L Harvey
5 RW RWEE (25) R HISTON 10 7 BROTHRON 10 12 L GROUND
ANGEL CE Egypton 10 7 G D J Burchall
50 COAST ALONG (21) D GARCHE 10 6 D J Burchall
COAST GLARDS HAVEN M BRIDGE 10 6 P Hide

Richard Edmondson finds that the horse who battled to success faces a fight for recognition

tion Freedom Cry and Pentire [the King George second] in the same breath." tacular horses like Sea Bird and Ribot and unfortunately he is not going to Lammtarra is also expected to be classified as just an ordinary Arc winner in the official International Classifications and is likely to be placed behind Bahri, Pennekamp and Celtic Swing.

TIMEFORM'S ALL-TIME TOP-RATED 145 Sea Bird II, 144 Brigadier Gerard, Tudor Minstrel, 142 Ribot, Abernant, 141.
Mill Reef, 140 Dancing Brave, Shergar,
Vaguely Noble, 139 Generous, Pappa
Fourway, Reference Point, 138 Alleged, Alycidon, Edbury, Nijinsky

Ian Balding, the trainer of Mill Reef. the only other horse to have completed the big treble, also believes his colt proved more in terms of longevity and versatility. Geoff Lewis, Mill Reef's

press release on Tuesday. Others have an explanation for the colt's apparent recalcitrance at home and on the racecourse. "He would just stand and unfortunately he is not going to there at the beginning of a piece of be remembered as good as them. That's rather sad, seeing what he has work and you would have to lead him in, but I would call that a characteristic more than a sign of temperament," Here lies the crux. Lammtarra's ca-Ed Dunlop, former assistant to Lammpacity to succeed while expending the tarra's original trainer, Alex Scott, said

perament that came with their initial

yesterday. "He was certainly a very kind

horse and you could get in his box and he would be no bother." gle to be remembered as an impres-Walter Swinburn, who rode Lamm-tarra in the Derby, also defended the sive figure. All the horses that glue themselves to the public consciousness horse's attitude and ability. "The way he behaved was just him," he said yes-terday. "Good horses do it in differhave had flamboyance about them: Nijinksy for his instant acceleration, Shergar for his wide-margin victory in ent ways, but there seems to be this the Derby (though he arguably owes fixation with horses who have an immediate turn of foot, like Sir Ivor and whose colouring and extravagant fenc-ing masked the fact he was someway Nijinsky. There are other ways of do-ing it like Reference Point and this behind his predecessors in National horse, and everyone seems to forget that Shergar was basically a galloper

who ran them into the ground. "Lammtarra was ill and then he had interrupted preparations before the Derby and the King George, so the only time he had a really clear run in was before the Arc. It takes some horse



Lammtarra: departing in a wink

boys in the weighing room know he is something special. They call him a freak. You can't knock the horse and I promise you we won't see another one "People seem to remember the spec- to retract any mention of the word tem- to do that and, whatever others say, the like him for a few years."

slick look

Hunt's top branches.

A quick replacement for Lammtarra as a prospective 3.25: Any draw advantage is hard Breeders' Cup winner for Britain emerged yesterday when Lake Coniston suggested

The Jockey Club's Disciplinary his chances of riding at the Committee made two historic Breeders' Cup.
His ban, which begins on
Saturday, also rules him out of decisions yesterday in giving

Lanfranco Dettori the longest

ban of his career and in issuing

the first suspension to a jockey

jockey Sean McCarthy will not

Dettori, who was represent-

riding at Pontefract nine days ago, his third offence of the sea-

son. Unless he lodges an appeal

Gosden-trained Tamure will go

to Michael Kinane. An unsuc-cessful appeal would threaten

the Racing Post Trophy on 21 October, but he is free to partner Presenting in the Roth-mans International at Toronto RICHARD EDMONDSON

NAP: Danjing (Newmarket 2.35) NB: Orinoco River (Newmarket 4.50)

on Sunday because there is no deemed guilty of irresponsible Flat racing in Britain.

Gosden, resigned to losing Dettori, said: "I'm sure Michael Kinane will ride Tamure. The within 48 hours, his place on the horse is in great form but I wouldn't want the ground to dry up too much. He breezed this morning and went very well."

McCarthy, aged 22 and based in Lambourn with the trainer Kevin McAuliffe, tested positive for cannabis and amphetamines. After the inquiry he said: "I accept that banned substances were found in my sample, however I have never knowingly taken amphetamines and cannot explain now I test-

ed positive for them. "I am determined that the offence will not be repeated. I am equally determined to pursue my career in racing and will work even harder than before to ensure I succeed. I would like to thank my boss, Kevin McAuliffe, for his support during a difficult and stressful time."

His solicitor, Andrew Chalk. said: "Sean realises he has been foolish and is determined that he will not make the same mistake." Yesterday's results, page 30

Lake has Champion ban for Dettori

to pin down here, most of the recent runnings of this event having been run on soft going. Cayman Kai's stable has been going through a lean spell yet this colt has the best form credentials. Authetia is an unbeaten, improving filly and her yard has a good record in this kind of event. Both receive weight from SOVEREIGN'S CROWN, yet the way this colt stretched clear of a big field at Newbury a month ago means he is the right type for this.

HYPERION'S

3.55: Awaamir and Jamest Jumairah look dangerous newcomers, but the experience of STAR AND 2.55; EMPTY QUARTER seeks a GARTER could prove decisive. This hat-trick but is burdened with a 6lb penalty for beating three rivals here nine days ago. That small field contained more quality than today's filly was sixth of 23 runners at Not-tingham last month but was certainly not disgraced as she was marked mainly out-of-form opposition. taged by the draw.

3.40 Emperor Jones (nb)

4.15 Reverand Thickness 4.50 Silver Dome

NEWMARKEE

for failing a drugs test. Dettori that he was over the problems will be an onlooker for 10 days, and will be deprived of riding which caused him to run so poorly in the Haydock Park Tamure in Saturday's Champi-Sprint Cup last month, writes on Stakes, while the apprentice Richard Edmondson. The four-year-old worked be able to add to his five-win caimpressively around the replireer total for two months. ca Belmont Park bend that Geed by John Gosden's wife, the barrister Rachel Hood, was

off Lewis had constructed at his Epsom yard. "It was quite greasey on top so I was a little anxious when he worked up to full speed," the trainer said. "But he came round there as well as paint and whatever beats him in the Breeders' Cup Sprint will have to be a bloody good horse."

3.40 CHALLENGE STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 2) £50,000 added 71 Penalty Value £35,721

BETTIME: 7-4 Hampir, 5-2 Red Carelval, 9-2 Emperor Jones, 11-2 Scriet Une, 10-1 Cool Jazz, 14-1. Shabid, 20-1 Matte Cit., 50-1 Arbana Affair 1994: Zeten 4 9 0 L Detori 13-2 U Gossion B rab Decome Chirac

Red Carmival was really buzzing when she bees Harayir in the Cherry Hinton and she is now All bletter off. She is also the fresher of the two after reappearing from a five-month layoff to chase home Bin Rode over a mide here a fortness ago. Harayir, the 1,000 Guineas win-ner, continues to hold her form and she couldn't be faulted against the speedisters in the Diadem last time when Good Jazz, elded by the stands' side mal, best her under a length into fourth. Harayir could easily win this back over a more autisale trip, whereas the files of Sowlet Line, outgoined when second to Zieton in the race 12 months ago, and Emperor Jones, seem better suited to a mile. SHAHID best Missite Cut in the Beeswing at New-rostin early in the second and the cost grant use, artists thin at Control of the strip.

		added 1m Penalty Value £3,890
1	030500	SOTOBOY (23) (Nrs Madere Holls) P Harns 3 9 10
2		TARANA (5) (D) (SF) (Mrs.) Collegion) N Collegion 3 9 10Pet Edday 12
3		WILLIE CONQUER (12) (Raymond Tooth) R Alexant 3 9 8
4		AZDENAR (USA) (12) (Kandan Al Melitpum) Dunlop 3 9 8
5	440506	ASPROVENCE (ASA) (12) (The PBT Group) G Harmood 4 9 7A Chart 16
6	036400	REVERAND THICKNESS (\$2) (The Watersley Partnership) S Williams 4 9 5 K Declay 20
7	021/100	FLOWING OCEAN (46) (D) (F Al-Nessari Mess G Melleyay 5 9 5
8		MOUNTGATE (LD) (J F Coupland) M Blethy 3 9 0
9	132415	GUESSTMOUTION (USA) (5) (C) (D) (Quintex Partnership) J Pearce 6 9 Q
30	04-40	DUCKING (S) Uses Dave Wegan) J Fanshave 3 & 13
11	623335	WALDO (12) (D) (Geotiey C Greenwood) Lord Hurtington 4 8 12
12		FLIRITY GERTTE (28) (8F) (Mrs G F R Boss) R Boss 3 8 11
13	0530	ZELDA ZONK (12) (Mis Christine Parrang) B Meehan 3 8 10
14	0000000	ASTRAL WEBAS (29) IG Howard-Spinkl R Hannon 4 8 9
15	0-03	COLDEN TOUCH (USA) (23) (Mrs Rite Godfrey) R Champion 3 8 6
16		CREMISON SHOWER (34) (D) (Mrs David Russell) J Farishave 3 8 1
17	034033	SALDANDO (6) (Mrs Sandy Hendgel Pat Mechell 4 7 13 F Egym 7
18		RYSHINES (USA) (20) (CD) (P Davison-Brown) Mrs M Revoley & 7.7 © Eurobard 21.
19		MICHTY MINODOM (30) (D) (John Purcel) C Dayer 4 7 7
20		BROUGHTON'S PORT (25) (Lord Rowaller) W Musson 5 ? ?
21		BENJARONG (12) (D) (Ales Mangarex Brown) R McVetter 3 7 7
22	600050	BALLESTED (87) (Joint Venture Record) J Flech-Heyes, 3 7 7
		_ 22 deriesad _

sear are in with every chance but MOUNTGATE has been playing about a bit with his usual apprentice partner and Ray Cochrane could be the man to hold him together. He was putting double when he cipped the heels of a rival and unshapped David MicDab on the July course three outings ago and the seven-furing man Haydock last time was too short for him. Subsequently withdrawn at Pontefract after uning McCabe on the way to the stant, Mountgate can certainly win it on his Bev over Concer Un in July, Tarawa was heavily backed when third to Night Dance

> BALASARA D Elsacoth 5 10 12

al Trimble, 8-1 Dispest, 10-1 Peresi Princess, 20-1 others

GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: 2.36 – for side; 3.40 – stands side; remainder – centre. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None. III Sight-hand course with 1m21 straight. Course is SW of town on A1304. Bus link from Cambridge and Newmarks; railway statons (served by London, Liverpool Street). ADMISSION: Clob 2.14 (16 to 25-year-olds 5.8); Grandstand & Paddock 5.9 (16 to 25-year-olds 5.5); Silver Ring 5.3. CAR PARE: Morp — 10 declared — Afficient weight: (3/0) 7st 13th. Two handson weights: Polydames 7st 11th. Despite 7st 10th. BETTENE 7-2 Sector Vale, 4-1 Sen Of Sharp Start, 6-1 Whitnehopel, 7-1 Polydames, 15-2 Nebud Welcome, 8-1 Despythan, 8-1 Despythan, 8-1 Despite 11 Start 11 Etheysnen, 15-1 Acting Brave 1994: Acting Brave 3 8 3 A Clark 14-1 (8 Handood) 11 son FORM GUIDE The bettern weight for three-amentolicits is 7st 13th and that is the acturisted mark for SECKAR SIS All races ■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH EUNNERS: H Cech 57 winners from 297 runners g a success rathe of 19.3% and a loss to a 21 level stake of 266.42; J Gooden — 57 v A sigrees rate of 10.7% and a large but a 1 seven of active of active of active of active of 10.7% and a large of active of ac 13.6%, +510.26; W Carson — 63 winners, 526 rides, 12%, -587.23. H.DREERD FIRST TIME: Lydburst (visored) (2.00); Edbaytson (2.35); Astral Weeks (4.15). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUINNERS: Princess Paugaddy (2.00) & Standown (3.10) have been sett 118 miles by J Berry from Cockecham, Lancs; (Eincher Chab (3.10) sent 200 miles by M Johnston from Midcham, N York; No More Hansle (2.00) & Arishayed (4.15) sent 300 miles by Airs & Reveicy from Lingdale, Cleveland; Flowing Ocean (4.16) sent 122 miles by Miss of Kolleway from Whitcombe, Dorset. 1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS B) £13,000 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £8,767 E.1.3,000 addeed Lm ZT Persany Value 28, 61 12:413 Burrout (19) (Dr) (Handen N Maimum) D Mortey 5 9 12 12:413 Burrout (19) (Dr) (Handen N Maimum) D Mortey 5 9 12 0:34422 BAL MARBOUR (34) (6) (A Abdish) H Cacl 4 9 D. 0:3213 Warrang Oppier (13) (b) (an Cameron) J Durlop 3 9 0 12:200 AMRUK AREH (12) (b) (Meca) B Harbury 3 8 12 13:021 OUT ON A PROMISE (38) (b) (bits H Marrad & Wings 3 8 12 11:65 FRML APPERMACE (13) (E Sanguer) C Timple-Hem 3 8 10 44:6362 THAT OLD FREUNG (23) (Bob Laiement R Harroon 3 8 9 2:13:66 PRICKOY (12) (D) (Sr David Wile) J Frankers 3 8 5 9 2-1400 Pileton (24 tr) to be 1 -9 declared - 9. Section 1 -9 Section 1 - 9 Section 2 - 9 Section 2 - 9 Section 3 2.00 BUCKENHAM SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) £10,000 added 270 7f Penalty Value £7,815 421402 11 300625

1994: Acting Brave 3 8 3 A Clast 14-1 (8 Histocod) 11 so FORBI GLIBDE The bottom weight for three-year-olds is 7st 13to and that is the adjudged mark for SECILAR VALE with Polydamas and Danillag 2b and 3to out of the official range. Seclar Vale final y came good over this course and distance 16 days ago after some promising runs and Barry Hills's charge can do it again off the 4lb higher mark after being held by Rover Veen and Barry Hills's charge can do it again off the 4lb higher mark after being held by Rover Veen and Barry Hills's charge can do it again off the 4lb higher mark after being held by Rover Veen and Barry Hills's charge can do it again off the 4lb higher mark after being held by Rover Veen at Ascot. He has since won a melden at Sandown and can improve again over this longer trip. Binkers wolse up Daniling in a claimer here a formight ago and the second, Berkeley Bounder, won at Laicester on Tuesday. In a stronger race, Daning has it to do. Whitechapel wants softer ground, but the surface has come right for Son Of Sharp Shot, who had he fest ground when fourth in the Ebor and is now back with Pat Edday after being ridden by brother Paul on unautable ground last time. Glide Peth is handicapped to take a hend and can improve a bundle on his isteet defined at Brigation under 10st. Something of a Haydock Old Newton Cup specialist, a younger rivel might best late. Nalesed Welcome is another with it to prove one't the distance — its Magnet Cup who being gained over 10 furiongs. He an bedy when the binkers were refitted in the Cambridgestive (he won in the blinds as a juventie) and Seclar Vale is fancied to outsity lith. Danyder van in the Irsh Derby for John Ox and berter is litely ster a needed run at Goodwood 12 days ago. Acting Brave won this race last year after a run a week earlier but the return from a layoff looks against him the time. 3.10 SPORTING LIFE NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 270 6f Penalty Value £8,155 ### \$10,000 added 2YO 6F Penalty Value £8,155 10 PRIMA VOLD, (16) (D) (The Boautoon, Syndrate) R Harmon 97 ... Dates (THE (S) 10 126210 SHITE EMER (20) (6F) (Mg) Safford) B Mechan 9 6 ... W R Suitchern 18 3521 REPRIMATE (AMS) (12) (R E Sangsan) P Crosple-Hyam 9 6 ... W R Suitchern 18 3521 REPRIMATE (AMS) (12) (R E Sangsan) P Crosple-Hyam 9 6 ... W Moots 2 023004 EXTRA HOURS (12) (Machael Payton) W Marc 8 13 ... Mortan 1900 ... W Moots 2 1103 UTTLE NOGRAMS (14) (C) (D) (LE Half) C Over 8 13 ... March Dayter (7) 1. 5430 SERSET PLESSINE (15) (Mac 5 H Spencos Phillips R Harmon 8 12 ... Pat Edder (7) 1. 15410 SERSET PLESSINE (15) (Mac 5 H Spencos Clab) M Meade 8 12 ... R Hardin (S) 3 15510 STOP PLAY (66) (EF) (Marc Doris N Aleng W Morngians 8 10 ... R Cockman 14 201 SMEET WITHING (12) (D) (Ams Doris N Aleng W Javes 8 6 ... W Casson 2 3201/46 STANDOWN (8) (46 Cits Dakes) J Beny 8 5 ... Paul Eddery 13 155433 DERBOY (10) (6) (MR Chee) Holder (9) Morns 8 2 ... Paul Eddery 13 156433 DERBOY (10) (MR Chee) Holder (9) Morns 8 2 ... Paul Eddery 13

3.15 LANSDOWNE CHEMICAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m

CHASE (CLASS D) 2-5,000, BODIES SIT 03F71-2 SOURCH 1990, [C23] (CD) 6 Tromer 8 12 0 __M A Regulati 130,42-5 BOUL CHOISE (LD) R Flost 9 12 0 _____ A Regulati 130,42-5 BOUL CHOISE (LD) R Flost 9 12 0 _____ A Regulati P5723 ROYAL SAXION (8) P Boxen 9 10 10 ____ AB R. Lehaston (5) 50,413- AGEA (LISS) M Fpc 7 10 8. ____ B Bridgentor 54395F- LUCKY AGAN (140) (5) C Popham 8 10 0 ___ T Describbe (7) ____ 5 declared -____

FIRTHER RUNKE (S) Lich Bergl John Bergl St	To Source, Accinese botted home in a filles' handicap at Haydock (P) last time. Guessit-mation has strong claims. Selection: MOUNTGATE. BBF CHESTERTON MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £9,000 added 2YO 1m Penalty Value £7,325 SENSOR (Lord Howard or Walden) H Cect 9 0 Pani Eddeny 5 SENSOR (Lord Howard or Walden) H Cect 9 0 A Macdican 7 ELARRICH (RSA) (Sharifon Shall Films Limited 1) Duriph 90 R Cochrane 8 NOCHECK (USA) (Sharifon Shall Films Limited 1) Duriph 90 R Cochrane 8 NOCHECK (USA) (Sharifon Shall Films Limited 1) Duriph 90 R Cochrane 8 NOCHECK (USA) (Sharifon Shall Films 1) Hits 90 M Newnest 9 R Nochrane 8 Noc	FORM GILIDE First time out, SHADY GIRL ran respectably from what proved a poor draw in Ocean Grove's race at Northigham, and shirts back in an ordinary-looking madein after taking her chance in the Blue Seel Stakes at Ascot. Star And Garter was body drawn at Northighem last time, in the race won by Thracian, but she was first home on the stands' side and beat Green Charter (Isrournae) and Flighty in the process. Out of a more that has produced a number of good winners. Star And Garter should be therashous, but Phytry will improve for the run and Franke Detion takes over this time. Selection: SHADY (2R). LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 1m 5f 1.35yds Persalty Veilue £3,940 1.00-263 MARINOROS (16) (Nan Lasfanchi / Dunico 39.10
TAUNTON 9 STORA R Street 10 6 B CERTING 10 GRANNING GLORY N Apide 10 4 M Poster 11 0 CLUB BLITE (25) M Barnichtory 10 1 Ann Stokes 11 0 CLUB BLITE (25) M Barnichtory 10 1 Ann Stokes 11 deckered - 11 CLUB STREET (27) M Barnichtory 10 1 Ann Stokes 11 deckered - 11 deck	1 315-331 GREEN SLAND (7) (D) A Durn 9 120	Afriktum weight: 7st 7b. The handkep weights: Island Cascade 7st 5b. Wessem Horton 7st 5b. Light half Quest 7st 4b. Jab 7st 1b. SECTIMA: 2-1 Protein Dopices, 3-1 Mathemores, 11-2 Rengenesque, 6-1 Green Land, 10-1 Western Hortzon, 12-1 Philmist, 14-1 others 1894: First But 7 9 9 A Culture 4-1 (R Whitelier) 14 ran
2.15 Dominion's Dream 2.45 Northern Starlight 3.15 Royal Saxon 3.45 Persian Saint 4.20 No- 3.15 Royal Saxon 3.45 Persian Saint 4.20 No- biely 4.55 Quasimodo 5.25 Merlins Dream Diely 4.55 Quasimodo 5.25 Merlins Dream Diely 4.55 Quasimodo 5.25 Merlins Dream 30341 Monream Samuer (2) (2) (2) Production (7) 1 30341 Monream Samuer (2) (2) (2) Production (7) 1 30341 Monream Riving 7 (12) (2) (2) Production (7) 1 30341 Monream Riving 7 (12) (2) (3) Production (7) 3 3041 Monream Riving 7 (12) (3) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4	11 4	5.00 EGTON CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO 7f Penalty Value £5,863 0.30210 MOON KING (18) (D) (Moraned Suball R Hannan 9.3 1 Weever 2 510036 EPAGRIS (12) (D) (MS H G Cambens) H Ceol 9.2 1 M J Rinana 3 520000 SUES RETURN (12) (A L R Motor) A Jans 8.8 1 J Table 1 3 declared - 3 declared - 3 J Table 1 3 J Table 1 3 J Table 1 J Table
Right-hund course, in the many course is 5 of 198m on BS170. Thurston station 2m. ADMIS- Richard is 5 of 198m on BS170. Thurston 5 of 198m o	D DECEMBER 10 0106-44 DURE OF DREAMS (12) R Bater 5 10 1	ESTING: 47 Epagia, 13-8 Moon Ring, 14-1 See's Return 1994: Modely 3-8-9-5 Doyle 5-1 C Britain 7 ran
SIS All rates WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Doughdon's Dream (ILI5) WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Doug	CHASE (CLASS 1 OP219 SPENERS HOUSE DA ON Nitrodeson 6 11 5 IA A Rogeral CHASE (CLASS 2 BNASARA D Elson 5 10 12 Pholory 10 yels 3 DEPART COR N USAGes 15 10 12 DO Sadden	Horse Racing Results Results
Indies by K Wingstone from NewHallers, School NewHallers, School New House, 14-1 Floring, Such Secret, 18-1 others 1 23-2112 TOOMUCH TROSDON (SD) (D) (RF) & 123-2112 TOOMUCH TROSDON (SD) (D) (RF) & 123-2112 TOOMUCH TROSDON (SD) (D) (RF) & 123-2112 TOOMUCH TROSDON (SD) (SD) (SD) (SD) (SD) (SD) (SD) (SD)	M Pipe 7 12 0 _B Powell 4 10-5F4 _INMESSMICK (5) W G M Turner 5 10 12 D Bridgester LANDHAL K Bishop 6 10 12 L Harvey	0839 - 111 171 168+ COMMINIAN

25.2112 TOOMIGH ROOSON (SI) (D) (B) M Ppo 7 12 0 LB Powel 1653-21 NOBLEY (20) (D) N Valuer 8 11 7 R Demonstrate 1653-21 NOBLEY (20) (D) N Valuer 8 11 7 R Demonstrate 17 NPO CASTANUM (275) Mass H Knight 6 11 0 P Talley 0715-550 BERSHAU BROOK (73) P ROOM 8 31 10 S Recough 725-76 ROMAN (200) P Nicholo 7 11 0 A P McDay

Juninho's attitude will ridicule the empty-headed notion that a player with sublime gifts is entitled to special dispensation

One opinion that has been held whose transfer from São Paulo to Harmer of Tottenham and here too long to be lightly dismissed is that if Pele was not the best footballer that ever lived, he is as near to it as we are ever likely to know.

At a peak, Alfredo di Stefano, Diego Maradona and George Best came close but not close enough. Pele had it all; technical brilliance, imagination, remarkable vision, physical vigour, pace, stamina, persistence, enormous presence and a great passion for the game. If provoked he could be spiteful too.

Nobody in football today compares with Pele, but because of predictable loose thinking in some areas of my trade it is bound to be a burden for the 22-year-old Brazilian international Juninho, Middlesbrough has understandably raised a great deal of excitement. Juninho is no more the natural successor to Pele than his hero, the richly talented Zico, was. He is a

gifted, frail-looking forward whose creative instincts, along with the impression that he had been diverted from a schoolboy game, were immediately evident in the Umbro Cup here last summer. Since Brazilian football is noted for nothing so much as its

flair, an interesting thing personally is that at first sight, both in appearance and on the ball. Juninho evoked memories of two fine English players from 30 and more years ago, George Eastham of Arsenal, Newcastle and Stoke, and Tommy

Chelsea. A deft dribbler and caps but, like Harmer, who performed many feats of productive wizardry for Tottenham Hotspur, was considered to be lacking in strength and resilience.

It is possible that something similar will soon be expressed about Juninho as it was when Brazil's captain, Dunga, first came across him in the national team's dressing-room before a match against Israel. Astonished by the new recruit's boyish appearance, Dunga asked Mario Zagalo whether it had become a policy to select players from the youth team. Two hours later, Dunga knelt theatrically at



That tale emerged from an interpreted conversation I had with Juninho one evening last summer. New to our love affair with Brazilian football, he was thrilled by praise for his skills and the team's reception generally. "I want to

he said. If a British footballer has ever said anything similar it must have been when it was fashionable to turn out in tasselled headgear.

A popular misconception about shaped on the beaches of Rio. Pele, in fact, developed on the dusty, rutted streets of a remote railway junction and did not see the ocean until he was selected as a teenager for junior representative matches.

Neither does Juninho conform to the notion of football as a means of escape from disenfranchisement. He is from what is reian football, he was thrilled by garded in Brazil as a middle-class praise for his skills and the team's family and is, importantly I think,

That Juninho should prove so effective internationally when looking as though he should be introduced to a diet of suct pudding and stout, is not only a trib-Brazilian football is that skills are ute to his inner strength but perhaps significant to the controversy that surrounds Matthew Le Tissier's continued omission from the England team.

To suppose Le Tissier would be an automatic selection for Brazil is to be in ignorance of qualities demanded by activity in leagues that can be more brutal than any in the world. For example, Brazil would

thank everybody who has spoken and written good things about us,"
the said If a British factory was ended prematurely by a succession of savage tackles that wrecked both his knees. dar

Skill has never been the solitary basis for selection in Brazil as Pele never failed to demonstrate. Since retiring he has said, "People may say that technically Pele was not so good or that he missed some goals he should have scored. But never in my 25 years as a player could anyone say that Pele does not run in the field."

There is no guarantee that Jun-inho will instantly be a spectacular success in the Premiership, but we can be sure that his attitude will ridicule the empty-headed notion that a player with sublime gifts is entitled to special dispensation.

Bristol first to offer the money

Rugby Union STEVE BALE

Bristol stole a march on the rest of the English First Division last night when they announced the embrace of "full professionalism" as soon as the Rugby Football Union would allow - which at the moment is next season, at the end of the RFU's moratorium on

club payment.
This is the club's response to the depredations of other clubs who have been seeking or have already taken their players. A gaggle of old boys headed by Derek Eves, the former captain, has already dropped into the Third Division with Coventry, and Newcastle of the Second Division have been trying to sign Garath Archer, Martin Corry and Alan Sharp.

All three have now turned down the money - between £30,000 and £40,000 a year - being offered by Rob Andrew, Newcastle's development director, in favour of a deal with Bristol which could be worth

£50,000 each per season. Such a substantial sum would be dependent on where Bristol finished in the Courage Championship as well as bonuses earned by winning league and cup matches and achieving individual representative honours.

Bristol's search for the capital to fund this bold venture Brown, the businessman who ousted the former England scrum-half and selector, Bill Redwood, as chairman during

decided to take the initiative to

the club is determined to lead the way into the new era and has already agreed with its players a structure that will lead to a smooth transition to full professionalism pext season. Lucrative employment contracts will be prepared for all first-team squad players which will include provision for past

something everyone else is still awaiting RFU guidance. They sight of their players making a procession to the North-east for talks with Andrew, who has

Under-21 forwards last season, were prime targets since they have only just left Newcastle for Bristol. Despite being unemployed, even Sharp, Bristolian to the core but six times a Scotland prop, could not be tempted once Bristol had put their own package together.

RACING RESULTS HAYDOCK

2.00: 1. CHARTERHOUSE XPRES (N Variety) 20-1; 2. Precious Girl 7-1; 3. Hear The Music 5-4 fax, 11 ran. 2, 1 v., (M McCormack, Wantage), Tother £42.80; £4.60, £2.70, £1.10. Dual Forecast: £132.20. Computer Straight Forecast: £148.80, Incast: £280.90. The: £45.80. £2.30: 1. INCHRORY (PAt Endery) 4-6 fax; 2. Salmis 9-4; 3. Classic Romanoe 9-2. 4 ran. 4-, 9. (H Cecil, Newmarket), Tother £1.60. Dual Forecast: £1.60. CSF: £2.51. 3.00: 1. DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (W Byan)

1.00: 1. DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (W Ryan) ; 2. Be Warned 15-2; 3. Palo Blanco rmed 15-2; 3, Palo Blanco um 33-1, 24 mm, 7-1 fav Sue Me. 144, sht-hd. (P Felgate, Lisburn). Total £10.90; £2.10. £3.50. £2.30, £15.00, Dual

210.90; £2.10, £3.50, £2.30, £15.00, Dual Forecast: £196.90, CSF: £72.94, Treast: £540.54, Tre: £334.10, 3.30: 1. SEBASTIAN (Pet Eddery) 1-2 fav; 2. Mack The Kallie 4-1; 3. Neumarket), Teke: £1.40; £1.10, £1.90, DF: £2.00, CSF: £2.94,

22.94.
4.00: 1. POLAR ECLIPSE (I Wester) 71; 2. Alessandra 2-1; 3. Spilio 13-8 for, 9
ran. 114, 9. (M. Johnston, Middeham). Total:
27-30; 22.10, 21.20, £1.30. DF; £7.60. CSF;
£21.27. Tuto: £7.40,
4.30: 1. DEBUTANTE DAYS (M. Roberts)
10-1: 2. Mistignaset 9-1; 3. was Pin. 16-

boob Alshermaal (5th): 2½, ½, ¼, ¼ A Stewart, Newmarke(1), Totac £12.30; £3.10, £3.50, £2.70, £5.50, DF: £128.90, CSF: £95.97. Thic: £798.70 (part won, pool of £798.70 car-ned forward to Newmarket 4.15 today). Traned forward to Newmarket 4.15 today). In-cest: £1.333.40. 5.00: 1. RICHELIEU (W Ryan) 6-1; 2. Tak-

5.00: 1. RICHELIEU (W Ryan) 6-1: 2. Tale-W 2-1 fax; 2. Aufuran Wings 10-1: 19 ran. rk. 1%. (H Cocl., Newmark-0). Robe: 25.00; 52.10, 51.70, 54.00. DF: £7.50. C9F: £19.76. Ino: £40.70. NR: Kirkadian. 5.30: 1. CIRCLED (M Has) 10-1: 2. Name of Our Farther 7-2; 3. Fog City 100-30. 9 ran. 5-3 fay Dombey (4th). 6, 1%. (B Hills, Lambourn). Fota: £13.70; £1.90, £1.70. £1.30. DF: £24.50. C9F: £43.32. Tric: £19.70. After a stewards' inquiry, the plac-ings remained unatered:

Jackpot not won (pool of £54,317.39 to New-mariest today). Placepot: £63.90, Quadpot: £80.60. Place 6: £80.61. Place 5: £34.£1.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Rugby League

HALIFAX CENTENARY WORLD (2)F

Division: Dundali, v Sigo Rouss (7,45), PONTRIS LEAGUE First Division: Oldhan Rohm (7,00)

PREMIER LEAGUE: Inswich v Poole (7.30); Middlesbrough v Belle Vue (7.30); Sheffleid v Bradford (1945).

Other sports SOLP: Toyota World Match Play Championship (Westworth).

the rugby union ladder is not restrained by approaches to its players by other clubs," Brown said last night. "Bristol is wellpositioned to meet all the requirements of the new game, and its young squad appears to be going from strength to strength.
The general committee of

loyalty and commitment."

Bristol have thus put in place talking about while impatiently were stirred into action by the yet to announce any Newcastle signing other than himself.
Archer and Corry, England

Also influential was the RFU's much-criticised 120-day qualifibegins now, headed by Derek cation period and Newcastle's increasingly parlous position in the Second Division. "Rob has asked me to take too big a risk of dropping down a league for at least half a season when I've set "Bristol Football Club has my sights on the international cided to take the initiative to scene," Corry said.

> WETHERBY 2.20: 1. DAMM MISSION (I. Wyer) 11-1; 2. Samaka Hara 20-1; 3. On A Pedestal 5-1 14 ran. 2-1 fav Done Well (6th). 1, 3. (M H Easterby). Totar: £16.50; £3.60, £11.70, £2.00. DF: £1,137.30. CSF: £204.87. Dual Forecast: £1,137.30. Tro: £278.70

> 2.50: 1. VAVASIR (P Neen) 15-8 /t fav; 2.50: 1. VAVASIR (P Neen) 15-8 /t fav; 2. Kushidalay 13-2; 3. Scar75-1. 5 rain. 15-8 /t fav Peruvian Gale (felh. 30, 5. (Mas Lu-chida V Russell), Tokes £2.50; £1.30, £2.20. DF: £8.30. CSF: £11.83.

DF: £8.30. CSF: £11.83.
3.20: 1 STAY ANAME (P Niver) 4-1; 2.
New Inn evens Inn; 3. Bend Sabbe 10-1. 3
ran. 144, 4. (Mrs M Reveley). Tota: £4.60; £1.40, £1.10, £2.90. DF: £3.50. CSF: £8.48. Incast: £34.34.
3.50: 1 TOGGOOD TO BE TRUE (LWyer) 6-4 for; 2. De Jerdann 9-2; 3. Beaucodéasa 9-2.5 ran. 1, 30, (M H Essterby). Tota: £2.00; £1.70, £1.20. DF: £3.60. CSF: £1.87.
4.20: 1. DESERT FIGHTER (P Niver) 6-4

4.20: 1. DESERT FIGHTER (P Niver) 6-4 for: 2. Simply Desthing 9-2; 3. Down The Fell 5-2: 12-ran. 1, 13. Was M Reveley, Totac 52.70; 51.50, 51.70, 61.40. DF: 64.90. CSF. 69.66. Tric: 15.10. 4.50: 1. SOUTH WESTERLY (P Niver) 4-5 for; 2. Aritann 100-30; 3. Cherry Polary 3-1. 4 ran. 11, 15. (Mrs M Reveley). Totac 61.80. DF: 62.60. CSF: 63.79. NR: Wiler-ress.

ross. Placepot: £19.20. Quadpot: £5.40. Place 6: £26.62. Place 5: £4.53.

EXETER 2.10: 1. SPRUNG RHYTHM (T J Murphy) 13-8 fev; 2. Romalito 16-1; 3. Fortica's Con-

quest 40-1, 14 ran. 15, 15, (K Bailey), Total £2.30; £1.10, £2.80, £14.80, DF, £9.60. CSF: £27.65. Tho: £177.50 (pert won, pool of £205.00 to Newmarket 4.15 today). 2.40: 1. UP THE JUNCTION (P Holey) 7-2; 2. Noo's Promise 40-1; 3. Them Times 14-1, 8 ran. 13-8 fav Sann Magic, 2, 5. Okts P Dutield). Tota: £4.10; £1.50, £6.00, £2.90. DF: £38.10. CSF: £62.42. Treast: £1,567.98.

Remainder of meeting abandoued owing to fog

> TODAY'S NUMBER

> > 25

The number that Juninho will wear on his Middlesbrough shirt. The 22-year-old midfielder wears No 10 for Brazil. following in the footsteps of Pele, but the striker John Hendrie has that number at Boro and numbers cannot be changed during the season.

Reaching for the stars: Britain's Jamie Delgado serves in the lonely setting of Billesley Tennis Centre as he strives to reach the big time Baseliners try to escape the breadline

professional circuit while the small number of ATP Tour whacking balls on crowded local courts are not so far removed from reality as they In contrast to Wimbledon's

prestige and £6,025,550 prize money, Billesley Tennis Centre, Birmingham, promises perspiration, frustration and only minor elation, plus an opportunity to win a percentage of £4,000 (£500 going to the victor).

Billesley is currently hosting a satellite tournament, the lowest level of the events on the men's international tour. Satellites are a harsh proving ground for the rank and file in a sport which offers vast wealth for the few who reach the top, such as Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras, and a meagre subsistence for the majority below 200 on

the computer. The strata of men's profes-sional tournaments rises from the satellites up through the ATP Tour series, which range from \$50,000 (£32,000) Challengers to \$2.25m Super 9 events, and is topped by the four Grand Slam championships of Wimbledon, the United States,

France and Australia. What distinguishes the Billesley event at the lower end of the scale is the title. "satellite masters". This is not as grand as it seems, except for the 24 participants who battled for three weeks to get there by competing in the previous seg-ments of the Lawn Tennis Association's £16,000 autumn comes down to money, to a cercount the conditions they're satellite circuit at Wirral, tain extent," he says, "but at this playing under. It's all right for sociation's £16,000 autumn

⊿peting on the world "masters" is the conversion of world ranking points players have gained in the process. This brings the possibility of entry to the lucrative tournaments nearer and helps keep

the dream alive. But there is no sense of occasion. The only difference be- all the ones that try, very few tween a visit to the Billeslev indoor centre today and a week ago is the presence of umpires, line judges, the Wimbledon referee, Alan Mills, and the odd spectator viewing fierce matches from a walkway between the courts. One of the referee's duties at

the end of each satellite is to file

tendance figures. "On average we get about 300 spectators for the whole week," Mills says, "and it's usually the same people coming back three or four times. The atmosphere is not there, and also conditions are not the greatest. For instance, here I don't like having to play three matches side by side - the balls are flying all over the place - and in the middle court you can't put a service linesman on." Mills officiates at British satellites four or five weeks per year. His next tournament is a \$2.25m ATP Tour event in Essen, which has attracted the top 24 players in the world. The names will be familiar, the standards higher, but Mills does not anticipate keener contests.

"The top end of the game

In thusiasts who make believe that they are comreward for qualifying for a

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of toppic the cost of the price that they are comof the pric of tennis, the satellite circuit where players scramble for ATP ranking points and the chance to pursue their dreams

> they can improve their ranking. The level of competition is intense, week in, week out, and of make it." At Wimbledon, Mills had to

to deal with the Jeff Tarango affair, one of three disqualifications during the championships. Tempers are also apt to fray on the satellite circuit. "The players are all very close, living together for three or four weeks, media folk at Eastbourne. which obviously

a report to the International Creates frustra-Tennis Federation, including at-tendance figures. "On average says. "Consequently you get the odd little bits of niggle going on usually around about for the the latter part of the third week, Whole week' when they know

they've got to get wins to get more circuit in the 900s, Johansson has points to either get into the masters or to be seeded in the master. In the 900s, Johansson has gone on to improve his position to No 134. By qualifying for ters, which makes a big

difference. "It's a long time to take, that four weeks, which only counts as one tournament, after which you get your few ATP points. So I can understand them getting a bit tired and frus-trated. When I come to consider code violations, I take into account the conditions they're

end of the game it's points so one or two who do well, but I think the majority of them slog themselves to death and come

out with very little." Tennis in a vacuum is a challenging experience. Britain's James Baily, it may be remembered, won the Australian Open junior singles title in 1993 but was unable to make a successful transition to the senior game on his return when thrust into a satellite with an audience of

Others, such

hansson, have

four weeks of

February, when

he was ranked to No 134. By qualifying for Billesley, Arvind Parmar, a 17year-old junior from Hertfordshire, can look forward to receiving his first computer

Two British semi-finalists, Barry Cowan and Colin Beecher, will gain their highest rankings, around the 300 mark. Cowan plays Robbie Koenig, a 24-year-old South African whose career has been dis-

the guys talk to each other. It's tough, but it's tough in the business world, it's tough if you're an engineer or a doctor. We've got to put our time in at the beginning. This is the grinding time. The rewards are much bigger when you start doing

Koenig, who prospered during his first year as a pro, used his prize-money to finance his travelling and supplements his earnings by playing the stock market. He is currently ranked No 549. "I want to get to know all kinds of things," he says. "I want other challenges. You only play tennis until you're 30. I'm not going to end up being a tennis bum.

Britain's Paul Hand is 30, has a BA in business studies, a ranking of No 390 and has spent eight years on the satellite circuit. He no longer competes overseas, and uses the home satellites to keep his ranking reasonably respectable while making most of his income from the domestic Reebok Tour, which offers money but no ranking points. "Basically I can't afford to

travel any more," Hand says. "Flights and hotels are getting too expensive. I went to Asia with Chris Wilkinson last year to play some Challengers for three weeks, and I came back two grand light, so I just thought, 'this is stupid'."

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"The guy you're playing is your worst enemy," Koenig says, "but off the court most of heads low you can do it. I rent a studio flat in Southampton with my girlfriend, and the rent is nominal. I practise with a squad down there and get paid for it a little bit. I can't afford a flash lifestyle, but I don't want that. I'm happy doing

what I do." He hopes to remain fit to continue for three or four years, and may then turn to coaching. "I love the whole scene," Hand says, his only complaint being that foreign players tend to be "spoiled" by free transportation at the LTA's satellites, whereas in most countries visiting competitors have to fend for them-

Nick Gould, a 23-year-old from Bath with a ranking of No 411, can youch for that, "People who make out that it's very glamorous travelling the world don't know the half of it," he says. "Fortunately I haven't had anything drastic happen to me so far, but you don't see your friends a lot, and there are places where you can't get flights home and have to sleep in airports overnight, and there are a lot of nasty hotel rooms

with bugs on the wall." He intends to persevere awhile. "At the moment I feel I can go a lot higher. If I didn't feel I was going to come out of satellites within two years I'd have to think again. You can't make a living just from liking something. You've Hand reckons to earn up to got to be realistic."

Montgomerie prepares to play through pain

Although he was born in Australia, Steve Elkington has spent so much time and earned so in Houston, Texas. As the Ryder Cup reached its climax in Rochester, New York, Elkington watched the match on television in Taiwan at 3am. "I had tears running down my face," he said. What prompted this show of

emotion was not that Elkington

felt sad for two of his friends on

the United States team, Brad Fax-

on and Jeff Maggert, but that he

was delighted for the wins of Sam

much money in America his Road. In the first round, Tor-heart probably lies at his home rance plays Bernhard Langer

Today Torrance and Rocca, with Elkington, who then rolled ed to know why he drives the ball who between them have won in a 20-foot putt to win the first so straight on every hole. He and more than £1m in prize-money extra hole. "He deserved to win Greg Norman are probably the this season, resume the cut and thrust of head-to-head combat in the Toyota World Match Play Championship over the Burma

and Rocca meets Vijay Singh. In the other two first-round matches, Lee Janzen plays Katsuyoshi Tomori and Colin Montgomerie takes on David Duval. If Montgomerie, who is nursing a wrist injury, survives to the second round, he will play Elkington, who beat him in a sudden-death finish to the US PGA Championship in July. Montgomerie birdied the last as much as I did," Elkington said. The remark was not meant for public consumption, but was

relayed to Montgomerie by fax. They are both aged 32 and both played golf at universities in Houston. Whereas Elkington won All-American honours, Montgomerie did not set the campus alight. "He did nothing in college," Elkington said. "In fact, I wasn't sure that his future was in golf. He's the ulti-

mate late bloomer." Elkington thought that Monty's swing was "unorthodox", but after the US PGA he studied the Scot's style on video. "It looked Torrance and Costantino Rocca. three holes to get into a play-off perfect," Elkington said. "I want-

Greg Norman are probably the best drivers in the world."

Montgomerie, who was beaten by Ernie Els in last year's final, will have heat and laser treatment on his painful wrist before teeing off this morning. "It would be very difficult to pull out at this stage," Montgomerie

The 24-year-old Duval is making his debut in the championship. He turned professional two years ago and has won so much money this season on the US Tour be has made the top 10, and will probably be-

Duval has not played at Wentworth before, but he made a significant impression in Scotland this year on courses that were new to him.

and was on the leaderboard in the Open at St Andrews until taking a seven at the Road Hole. "I have been a good player for years," Elkington said, "and I never finished in the top 10 in America."

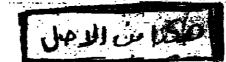
If the matches go the distance, the top four seeds have the advantage. They have a come their rookie of the year. free day today, although Els says Even if Montgomerie had not he is in the mood to defend. By had a suspect wrist, the odds are last year's standards, the South

that he would be involved in a African has had a quiet season, close match with the American. "With the talent he has," Montgomerie said, "never write him off for anything."

While retaining membership of the US Tour next year, Els. forming a pressure group with He had a good run in the Norman and Nick Price, intends Scottish Open at Carnoustie to play more in Europe. He has bought a house in Lake Nona, Florida, the base of David Leadbetter and his team. "I still have faults in my swing." Els said. In a non-vintage field, it is the Elk. rather than Els, who could land

rather than Els, who could land the £170,000 first prize.

TOYOTA WORLD MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP (Westworth De-off times: 0815 and 1230: L. Jarzen (US) v K Tomon Liopan). Winner to play E Es (SA), 0830 and 1245: S Torance (GB) v B Larger (Gert. Winner to play N Price (ZIM), 0845 and 1300: C Montgomene (GB) v D Davel (US). Winner to play S Finner, ton (Aus), 0890 and 1315: C Rocca (ft) v V Singh (Fig). Winner to play 8 Creneraw (US).



No danger of Rhinos' extinction

Rugby League

towel despite the heavy punishment they have taken so far in the Centenary World Cup. In the space of three days, the

South Africans have conceded 138 points in two games, including a world record Test defeat of 86-6 against Australia on Tuesday at Gateshead.

The contrast with the Spring-bok side who won rugby union's World Cup to the delight of President Nelson Mandela in June could scarcely be greater, but their captain, Jaco Booysen, says his side are far from disheartened.

"We're very positive," Booy-sen, who was sporting a black eye, said. "Particularly after the second half against Australia, morale is very high."

(1)

The Kangaroos, 52-0 up at half-time, scored a mere 34 points after the break and even allowed the Rhinos, as the South Africans are known, a try of their own.

That honour went to prop Gideon Watts, who burrowed over by the posts to score South Africa's first try in international rugby league.

Booysen was adamant the result would not spell the abrupt end of rugby league in a country where union remains a virtual religion for many people.

"The public will back us up," he insisted. "We are all part of

compete in the emerging nations' tournament, due to start South Africa's battered players next week, but were persuadinsist they will not throw in the ed for largely financial reasons to enter a team for the main

They are also aligned with Rupert Murdoch's proposed Super League, a deal which should provide a massive in-jection of funds for the 13-a-side code in the Republic at a criti-

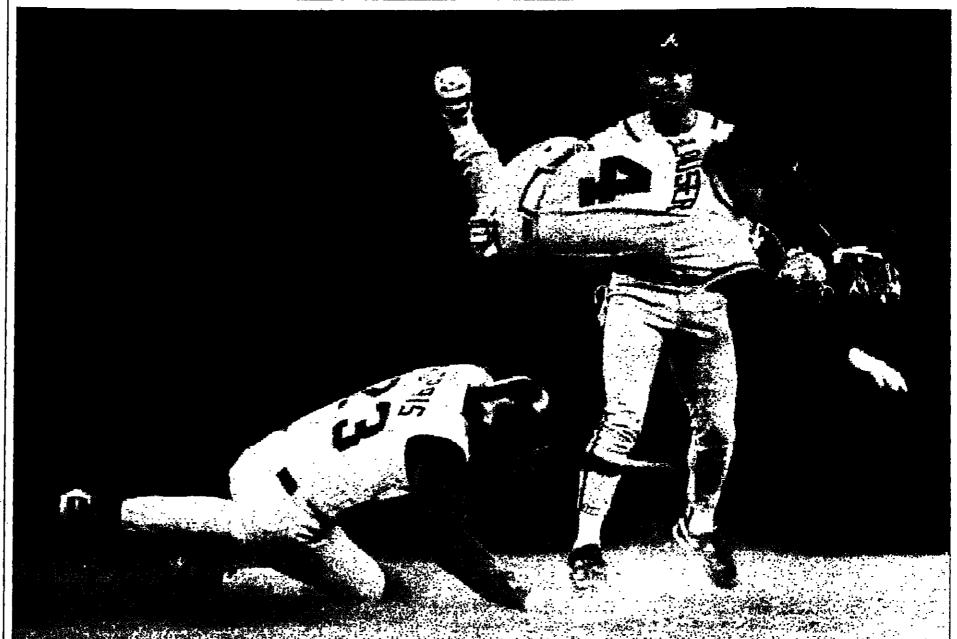
Things, however, could get worse for the Rhinos before they get better. Their final group match in Leeds on Saturday is against the hosts, England, who are fresh from a memorable victory over Australia at Wembley last weekend.

A crumb of consolation was provided by the Kangaroo stand-off, Andrew Johns, who marked his Test debut with a personal haul of 30 points to equal the individual World Cup record set by his fellow countryman Michael O'Connor against Papua New Guinea seven years ago.

"They're world champions in rugby union so they've got potential," Johns said.

Johns, the man of the match, landed 11 goals and added two tries to his goal-kicking feat but missed five attempts on goal and admitted he was disappointed not to break the record.

"It's a chance that might not come again," he said. "But it was my first match for Australia and I was pleased with my perfor-



Jeff Blauser, of the Atlanta Braves, is upended by Hal Morris, of the Cincinnati Reds during their National League Championship game

Mariners survive despite sailing close to wind

All the Seattle Mariners asked Bob Wolcott to give them was a few good immigs. Instead, the 22-year-old rookie gave them a game to remember forever. Wolcott, pitching because the Mariners had no one else. pulled one of baseball's greatest escapes, wriggling free from

Football 🦡 📇

a bases-loaded, no-outs jam in the first inning and beating the Cleveland Indians 3-2 on Tuesday night in the first game in the best of seven American League Championship series.
"It was definitely nerve-rack-

ing," Wolcott said. "It's a tremendous relief. Anything could have happened. We could've gotten blown out."

rest," he said. "I have to admit, I had my doubts in the first in-

ning. But it all worked out." Showing poise that belied his baby face, Wolcott, making only his eighth major-league appearance, spent the whole evening putting himself in trouble and then getting out. "We used so much of our The only sign of stress was the

pitching staff in the other series, sweat creeping out farther and singled with two out in the top Tom Glavine, Atlanta's starter, I just wanted to give them a farther on the bill of his cap. of the 11th to put Fred McGriff was pitching. "I was fortunate I just wanted to give them a farther on the bill of his cap. The Atlanta Braves hit single runs in the ninth and 11th

innings to rally for a 2-1 victory in a tense pitching duel with the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday, to take a 1-0 lead in the National League Championship Series. Mike Devereaux, who entered the game as a defensive

replacement in the ninth inning,

them ahead.

first eight innings by Pete Schourek, Cincinnati's starting pitcher, have scored seven runs in the ninth inning during the play-offs.

The Braves, shut down in the

five double plays, four while seven innings of pitching.

home for the run that put that I made the pitches when guys were on base, and the guys turned the double plays, Glavine said.

The left-hander, who entered the game with a 13-1 record at Cincinnati's Riverfront Stadium, had five strike-The Braves got the benefit of outs and gave up one run in his

Anderton move denial

Edwards threatens to retire over 'slur'

The England captain, Shaun near future. The Tongans are Edwards, is threatening to retire due to leave for home after losfrom international rugby over ly abused their Tongan winger, John Hopoate, in Saturday's WOIR C

Wembley, writes Dave Hadfield. Edwards has already denied the allegations and is consulting his solicitor: "But if this is what international rugby league has membership from five to eight. moment is that the sooner I get away from it the better," he said.

Edwards, whose girlfriend is black, is furious at what he sees as an outrageous slur. He criticised Hopoate after the match for sledging the England full-back, Kris Radlinski, but takes the strongest possible exception to claims that he racially abused the player on the pitch.

The Rugby League may bring back Tonga on a short tour in the

ing one and drawing one of their group games. The impact that they have had, however, makes the prospect of another visit an auracuve ine perior mances of Fijiand Tonga suggest that the time might be right to grant them full Test status, increasing the international board's MESTERN SAMOA (Group Three v Prance, Cardiff, today): P Telmaverve (North Harbour): Noto (Narrandera), Tudgensala (Wigan), Schuster (Halfat, capt), Laurandia (Cronder); Solomona (Auckland); S Solomona (Auckland), Swann (Auckland), Alon (Perritin), Matsustin St. Helers), Esbapa (Auckland), T Telmaverve Auckland). Substitutes: Vegana (Auckland). St. Helers), Many Medicand, Elia (Alb), Peralini (St Helers).

ford), Ella (ADD, Perallai St Helens).

NEW ZEALAND (Group Two v Papua New Gelman, St Helens, tomorrow): Ridge (Mark, capt): Hoppe (Auckland), Blackmore (Auckland), Wild (Carberra), Williams (Sydney Bulldogs): Paul (Wighn), Joses (Auckland): Proogla (Carberra), Era (Auckland), Hore (Sydney City), Keamey (Auckland), Hore (Sydney City), Keamey (Auckland), Hore (Sydney City), Tiro (Sydney City), Tiro (Sydney City).

"But I have a real battle on "I love it so much every time Aberdeen at the moment."

Despite his goal in Scotland B's 2-1 win over Sweden in Stockholm on Tuesday, Duncan Shearer is playing down his son as Aberdeen's manager. Roy Aitken, keeps faith with chances of making Scotland's Euro 96 squad next summer. "I still don't think I will be in England next year if we qualify." he

"I am pleased that I scored because I want Craig Brown (the Scotland manager) and the strikers in our senior squad to know I am ready to do a job if asked.

Shearer has been confined to the bench at Pittodrie this sea-

Shearer refuses to get carried away

Scott Booth and Billy Dodds. "I simply don't have a case to go in and see Roy Aitken at the moment," he said. "The two guys who are playing at the moment have been exceptional for

Aberdeen so far this season. "But scoring in Sweden is another reminder from me to Roy and I'm delighted with

my hands getting a game for I score a goal and it was special after being asked to captain the side. I love to hear the roar of the crowd and although there was hardly anybody there in Stockholm when I scored there

was a roar inside me. "I was also pleased that I played for almost 80 minutes because it's a big difference stepping up to B international level from reserve team football."

Brown bas already used

Shearer in Scotland's Group Eight qualifying campaign and a couple of other fringe candidates staked their claim on Tuesday.

Midfielders Scot Gemmill (Nottingham Forest) and Paul Telfer (Coventry) impressed the B team's joint bosses. Murdo MacLeod and Tommy Burns, as a late winner from the substitute. Kilmarnock's Tom Brown, ensured victory.

"It was a good team performance and it was great to see us passing the ball so well away from home in Europe," MacLeod said.

Scotland are set to include more B games in their forthcoming programme with the possibility of playing in Den-

mark next April.

Darren Anderton and Gerry Francis yesterday dismissed further reports that the Tottenham winger is to sign for Manchester United. Anderton has been the sub-

about a £7m move, but the England player, who signed a fiveyear contract at the end of last season, said: "This is a complete mystery to me. As far as I'm concerned, my situation is the same as it has been since the summer. I'm under contract at Tottenham and I'm very happy here. It's a great club.

Francis, the Spurs manager, said: "I'm fed up with this rub-

6.30 P.M. TONIGHT

WE ASK THE

QUESTIONS

THEY COULDN'T

ASK.

bish about Darren going to Manchester United. He is not going anywhere. Furthermore he doesn't want to go anywhere."

The Wimbledon manager, Joe Kinnear, has escaped furject of increasing speculation ther punishment after two possible breaches of his touchline ban, which expires at the end of the month, were reported to the Football Association.

Kinnear was seen by the pitch during matches against Liverpool, when Andy Thorn was "sent off" but then recalled, and against Sheffield Wednesday, but the FA has accepted explanations from match officials at the two games.

Park returns to threaten **British hopes**

British hopes of winning their first Olympic medal will encounter an unexpected hurdle after the announcement that South Korea's Park Joo-Bong is to come out of retirement for the Atlanta Games in nine months' time, writes James Leigh.

Park, widely regarded as the

greatest all-round doubles play-er of all time, has been considcring one more attempt upon a major title since the decision of the International Olympic Committee to allow mixed doubles into the programme for 1996. Among the strongest British prospects of a first medal had

appeared to be the mixed doubles, at which Nick Ponting and Joanne Wright were All-England champions last year. However, Park and Gil Young-Ah must now be the favourites for the event.

China's world

Li Xiaoshuang to surpass their at next year's Atlanta Olympics.

Despite their brilliant performances, the Chinese men failed to win a single apparatus final at the championships, and must develop their skills if they are to enhance their reputation at the Summer games.

2 Bulgaria (0) ... Stoichkov 89 45,000

Anglo-Italian Cup

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Di-vision: Brighton 3 Luton Town 1. Second Di-vision Leegue Cope Botenemouth O Plymouth

LE SYER CUP Semi-finals: Crossders 2 Lin-

...2 Aberbaijan 3,500 R Hasar 30, 50 3,500 at Ramat Gen stadium, Tel Advi

(at Teheiné Pole stadium, Bratislava)							
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beaters eve Atlanta gold

China's men gymnasts have been urged by world champion World Championship triumphs "We will be put under bigger

pressure, so we must make more effort to improve our skills," Li said after China's men's squad, led by Li, defended the team tigin of 3.061 points over Japan. Li also overcame the Olympic champion, Vitaly Sherbo of Belarus, and the European champion, Evgeni Chabaev of Russia, to capture the individual all-

around crown for the first time.

FOOTBALL	RESULIS
ppean Champlonship up Ose sta (0)	Group Six: Liectromatein (0)0 M ireland (1) 1,100 O'Nell 36 McMehon 49 Quim 55 P Gray 72
****** ***	Dr Creamed Embers

MATICINAL I FACULE Chempionship play-offs

Baseball

Football

Football
Brian Horton is to take charge of the Football League team which will play an tailan Serie B XI at Huddersfield's McAlpine Stadium next month. The Huddersfield manager will be aiming to lead the side – selected exclusively from Endsleigh League players – to a second victory over the Italians this year in the match on Tuesday, 14 November.

Ott.
TIESSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: European Under21 Championship Group Two (Aertras): Denmark 5 Spain 1. Group Three (Reykjandik,
losiered 2 Surley 3; (Worthingsen): Swetzestard 2
Hungery 3. Group Fore (Whalas): Liffusume 3
Estoma 0; (Ujubijana): Sovensa 0 Ulcrame 5.
Group Five (Petangis Lusembourg 0 Belous;
5; (Walletta): Malke 0 Netherlands 2. Group Six
(Wiener Neusstadt): Austin 0 Portugal 1.
Group Seven (Thilish): Georgia 1 Bulgaria 2.
(Exira 12, Roser 53) Chrimstoria 1 (Fudgos 90)
(Rish exira time: second replay on Monday at Prest Green Rovers! Baschurst pen 117) fact Meritre at home to Brackfurd Park Avenue; East wood Town 1 (Monday 18) Northwich Vicensa 2
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(Wingse and Firchey 2. Unilland Longiae Printing 1
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SPORTING DIGEST

Inteen players were yesterday named in a Great Britain and Ireland women's squad which will train together in the build-up to next fune's defence of the Curtis Cup in Killamey. It includes five members of the side which kept the trophy after a 9-9 tie in Tennessee last year – English and British champion Julie Hall, Mhain McKay, Janice Moodie, Elleen Mhain McKay, Janke Moodie, Eileen Rose Power and Lisa Walton.

Rose Power and Lisa Watton.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND WOMEN'S
SQUAD (for Cartis Cup in Killanney in June):
F Brown (Heswall), L Demostic (Royal Liverpool Ladies), E Duggleby (Mahon and Norton), E Heldis (Palmouth), J Hall (Febstowe
Ferry), R Hadson (Whastley), H Kansangh
(Grange), M Molkey (Rumberry), J Moodie
(Windyrill), L Nicholson (Haddington), E R
Power (Kilkenny), E Ratchille (Sanchway), A
Rose (String), K Stopples (Royal Cinque
Pors), L Walton (Calcot Park).

ice bockey

Pools news

VERHORS DIVIDENDS (for matches played 7 October). Trable chance: 23pts: 5253,001.00. 22: £518.25. 21: £50.00. 20: £10.00. 10 homes: £399.15. Five aways:

532.30.
LITILEWOODS Treble charace: 23pts
£438,923.35.22: £1.984.95.21: £120.75,
20: £23.65. 19 £5.35. Four drawn: £3.90.
10 homes: £338.90. Five enemy: £15.60.
22: £49.25. 21: £4.85. 20: £0.75. Four
draws: £20.00. Bight homes: £16.80.
Four sawys: £12.00. Easy six £51.60.
Goale gaiore: £5.95. Lindry numbers: 38
20: 22: 31: 28: 12.

Railying
Peugeot clinched the two-litre world champtonship in San Remo, Italy after a tense duel with rival French manufacturers Renault yesterday. In the final round of the series for two-wheel drive cars, Peugeot finished 30 points ahead thanks to good drives by the Italians Paolo Andreucci and Demittri Brunello. Renault lost their chance of wrining the champtonship when Italian warning the championship when Italian Renato Travagi suffered a broken gear-box on the 18th of 24 stages.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University 4 The Army 1. Rugby Union

Stouthidge, who have reached the third round of the Pilkington Cup, have re-cruited Austrella's former assistant coach, Glen Ella, as their backs coach, Ella, who worked under the sacked na-tional coach Bob Dwyer and prepared Australia's Hong Kong Sevens squad, is due to arrive in Endand within a

month. The former international will join a coaching panel that includes the for-mer Scotland A prop, Graham Smith. The New Zealand International Zinzar Brooke has been fined around £500 and Requalified from driving for six months fiter pleading guilty to assault and dangerous driving at a Wellington court.
CLUB MATCH: Noting am 18 Loughborough

Speedway PREMIER LEAGUE: Bradford 58 Arena Es-

Tennis

John Newcombe, the former Wimble John Newcombe, the former Wimbledon champion, has been told his job
as Australia's Davis Cup captain is safe
– just two weeks after the country were
knocked out of the eithe world group for
the first time. Tennis Australia, the sport's
national ruling body, reappointed Newcombe for 1996 and also retained Tony
Roche as Davis Cup coech.
The WITA Touris Transparer search for a

The WTA Tour's two-year search for a sponsor came to an end with the agree-ment of a deal with Canadian-based computer graphics software maker Corel. The contract will begin with the WTA Tour Championships in New York in November and will include incorpo-rating the software maker's name into the circuit, which will be known as the Corel WTA Tour. The United States-based Kraft Foods ended their sponsorship with the WTA at the end of the 1993 sea-son. The contract includes Corel being part of the nearly 60 tour events in 20

Russia have been fined approximately £16,000 by the International Tennis Federation for watering the court before last month's Davis Cup semi-final victory against Germany in Moscow.

against Germany in Moscow.
Salko Super Championship (Rokyo):
Men's singles third round: M Chang (US)
bt D Normen (Bel) 6-3 6-4; I Martin (US) bt
I Bates (SB) 3-6 6-4 6-4; I Stark (US) bt M
Rios (Chile) 6-7 6-4 6-4; A Volicov (Rus) bt F
Wioler (Neth) 7-5 6-2; B Steven (N2) bt C
Caratin (2) 6-4 6-3; H Holm (Swe) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 4-6 6-1, 7-6; S Bruguera (Sp) bt
I Paes final 6-3 6-0; T Martin (US) bt J Bates
(GB) 3-6 6-4 6-4; H Dreelmann (Ger) bt P
Haaritus (Neth) 6-7 6-4 6-2; M Philippous95 (Aus) bt S Edberg (Swe) 6-0 6-2; B Black
(Zim) bt M Tebulti (Aus) 6-3 7-6.

WOMEN'S PORSCHE GRAND PROX (Filder-WOMEN'S PORSCHE GRAND PRIX (Filds wosen's Powers and Prior (Pager) study, Gerl bit M Werdel-Witmeyer (US) 6-2 6-1. Second round: M Pierros (Fr) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6-2 6-3: Sabatru (Arg) bt J Hatard-Decugs (Fr) 7-6 6-2.

The British players Coin Beecher and Barry Cowan both beat seeds yesterday to reach the semi-finals of the LTA Autumn Sateliae Masters at Birmingham. Beecher, the third seed from Kent, beat the American Steve Herdoiza 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 while Cowan, a Larrasstrian, upset the second seed by Herderican for the second seed the second second seed the second seed the second second seed the second seco the second seed, Ivo Heuberger of Switzerland, 3-6, 6-2, 7-5. LIA AUTUMN SATELLITE (Birmingham) Mon's singles quarter-finals: C Beecher (CB) ix S Herdokz (LS) 6-4-5-7-6-4; B Cowen (CB)

O.J. SIMPSON'S FIRST POST-TRIAL INTERVIEW ONLY ON

WORLD EXCLUSIVE



ON CABLE

RUGBY UNION

Bristol prepare the way for professionalism Page 30 Page 30 TENNIS

Life as an also-ran on the satellite circuit Page 30

RACING Was Lammtarra one of the all-time greats? Page 30

Hamilton savours sweet moment

Football

Northern Ireland

Jimmy Quinn closed in on Northern Ireland's scoring record in his side's European Championship victory stroll at the Eschen/Mauren Sportpark yesterday afternoon.

Quinn, who will be 36 next month, netted one of his country's three second-half goals to move to within one of Colin Clarke's record of 13 goals for

the Ulstermen. Northern Ireland dismissed the part-time Group Six stragglers in a ruthless and professional manner, as their superior technique and fitness became

more apparent after the break. It was satisfying for the man-ager, Bryan Hamilton, to succeed so comprehensively where Jack Charlton's Republic team

could do no more than draw. Liechtenstein's already slim resources were stretched by the absence of first-choice goalkeeper Martin Heeb - their hero against the Republic - and their only full-time professional, Mario Frick - and Northern Ireland made them pay.

Phil Gray missed a simple chance in the second minute, but Liechtenstein's defensive discipline stayed intact only until the 36th minute. A long Alan Fettis clearance was headed on by Gray for Michael O'Neill to strike from close range. After the break, Northern

Ireland drove forward relent-

Liechtenstein may possess one of the most spectacular grounds in world football - but not one of the most impressive European records. They finished their Group Six pro-

um nestling below the Alps. LIECHTENSTEIR: Oebry (Frastanz); Hef Vaduz), C Frick (Babers), Hild (Escher/Max

lessly. The free-kicks of West

England hopes fade England need to win their final tertaining the Republic of Ireland

qualifying match in the Euro- on the same day that England pean Under-21 Championship on 14 November to have any chance of reaching the quarter-Austria might not be enough. That was the stark message for

their coach, Dave Sexton, as his squad headed home after Tuesday's 2-2 draw against Norway in their friendly international.

clear in Group Six on Tuesday. thanks to a 1-0 win over Austria. boast a superior goal difference, and complete their fixtures by en-

play. It will be a major surprise if Ireland do block their path, although they forced a draw at

Peter Bonetti, the goal-keeping coach to England Under-21s, said: "The Portuguese have got themselves in this position because of their defensive record. They have Portugal, who went one point only conceded one goal in seven games.

"We were hoping Austria might pick up a point, but it doesn't look good for us now."

Ham's Michael Hughes proved one of their most dangerous weapons, and one of them produced the second goal after 49 minutes. Quinn missed the ball but Tottenham's Gerry McMahon knelt behind him to head in his first international goal.

Quinn put his name on the scoresheet with a 30-yard drive in the 55th minute, after a bad error by Harry Zech, and Gray crowned a hard-working performance with the fourth when he headed in McMahon's 72ndminute cross.

Fettis, a spectator for most of the match, did well to tip over a curling shot from Franz Schädler in the closing stages.

gramme with one point and 40

goals conceded in 10 matches

Nevertheless, the tiny prin-

cipality, with a population of less than 30,000, has confirmed its entry to the next World Cup and may soon be facing some of global football's most famous teams in their municipal stadi-NORTHERN IRELAND: Fettis (Hull Cityl; Lo-mas (Manchester Cityl, Worthington (Leeds

Tennis about his defeat, saying he would soon forget about it. After being beaten by a man who was only five years old when Stefan Edberg began his career,

the Swede yesterday tried to console himself. "At least I'll have seven weeks off at the end of the year, which is the first time since 1982," said Edberg, who 6-2, by Mark Philippoussis, of Australia, in the Super Seiko Tournament in Tokyo.

Edberg, the former world No 1, will have the time off because he has no chance of making the year-ending tournament in Frankfurt, Germany, which pits the world's top eight players against each other.

Edberg was philosophical

"I'm going to have some losses here and there," he said. "I'm going to have my good weeks."
The winner of six Grand Slam tournaments insists he

will retire if he feels he can no longer win one of the majors, but acknowledges that bigger and stronger players make it hard-er all the time. "I used to be one of the big guys on the Tour. Now I'm somewhere in the middle," said the 6ft 2in Swede. Philippoussis, 18, who lost to

Edberg in the Australian Open in January, said that Edberg was still playing the same delicate serve and volley game, but the problem was that "tennis is getting a lot faster and more

"Maybe today Stefan didn't play as well or I didn't let him into the match," said Philip-poussis, ranked 60th in the world in his first full year on the

Despite winning the first set against Todd Martin, Jeremy Bates was yesterday beaten in the second round of the Super Seiko Tournament in Tokyo

Edberg is philosophical in defeat

"Everybody can play well when you're having a good day," Edberg said. "If you can play well when you're having a bad day, then you're a good Meanwhile, Britain's Jeremy

Bates slumped to a secondround defeat, despite winning the opening set against the sixth seed, Todd Martin. Bates twice broke his American opponent's serve in taking the first set 6-3. But Martin mixed serve and volley with well-placed passing shots to take the match 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Martin will now face Sweden's Henrik Holm, who overcame the No 12 seed. Mark Woodforde, of Australia, 4-6,

Steffi Graf, the Wimbledon champion, is still hoping to compete in next week's Brighton tournament - despite world No 1 ranking with Mouica Seles, has been nursing a chronic back complaint for several months, and has not played since winning the US Open ear-

ly last month. But George Hendon, pro-moter of the Brighton event, said yesterday: "Reports that Steffi has withdrawn are completely unfounded. She wants to play because she has always enjoyed the Brighton tournament.

Steffi had a rigorous workout in Germany today and may not decide until tomorrow whether she can play. She is probably waiting to see if their is any reaction after her practice session. If her back holds widespread reports that she up she will definitely play, but has withdrawn because of back until we hear from her, there is matter," Hendon said yesterday.

If Graf does drop out, it will be a tremendous blow to the tournament, which is being staged for the 18th and last time this year. The event is without a sponsor and was hoping for big crowds to watch the German player in action.

This year, despite her back problem, she has won three of

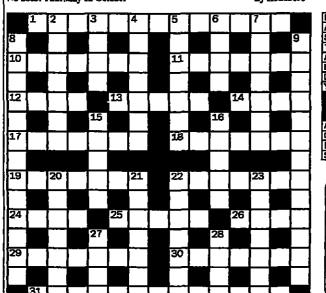
the four Grand Slam titles - the French Open, Wimbledon and the US Open - and has lost only one match, to the South African Amanda Coetzer, at the Canadian Open in August. But she bounced straight back to win the US Open,

beating the newly returned Se-

les in the final. More recently, she has been who is also her manager - being arrested and taken into custody in Germany for allegedly failing to report around £22m of her earnings. Graf herself had to endure lengthy questioning from the German tax authorities last

Results, Sporting Digest,

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



Big. dangerous adder seen in

10 A report about time creates

shock (7) 11 Overtaké cop on horseback (5.2) 12 Worry about scripture

lessons? (4) 13 Put to rest having rendered inert (5) 14 Some hi-tech-organs rever-

berate (4)

17 Rework á spoilt canvas (7) 3 18 The last riot showed sly cun-

ning (7) 4 19 Motivate badly then employ 5 22 Shipping order's scientific

value is mass deception (7) 6 24 Such a duck would provide 7 a poor meal (4) 25 Crow family? (5)

bats (4) this year's fine weather? 29 From whence comes French 9 wine - and Perrier for Mog-

gy? (7) 30 Benefit from fashionable 15 lady's sex-appeal (7) 31 Magazine concerning again and again (4,5,4)

DOWN Old-fashioned crew-cut leads to this sudden emergence of 21 a vein (7)

we're sung about (4) Sixties first of all (7) A friend for tea? ...(4) ...just the strange one situ-ated near California (7)

CPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, 1 Canada Square, Cartary Wharf, London E145DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St

See the striker wait for goinghome time (5,3,5) Like very modern Snow White with decisions left to

the dwarfs? (2,2,3,6) Computer information involves inversion of bit and Greek character (5) 16 Time for European member to be put to the test (5) 20 I'm apt to play in elevated

part of orchestra (7) Spike's getting to blow it? I'll protect the listener! (7) We're not bisons or okapi: 22 Inferior team to go down (7) 23 Temp is elected - displaying Lord in a cycling number? (7)

Triumph Spittire, ultimate 27 Sounds like top dog (4)

cult car, epitomises Swinging 28 The Derby, perhaps, but not this (4)

Mahanama sets up Sri Lankan success

Cricket

Roshan Mahanama's fourth century in limited overs internationals helped Sri Lanka to a rare victory over West In-dies yesterday. Batting with a runner during the second part of his innings after pulling a leg muscle, Mahanama made 101 of Sri Lanka's 234 for 7 in the opening match of the Champions' Trophy tournament.

West Indies appeared to be on target for their 17th win in 20 one-day matches against Sri Lanka when they reached 192 for 3 from 44 overs, the opencr Sherwin Campbell having led the way with 86 - his highest one-day score. But Sanath Jayasuriya, the left-arm spinner, claimed the wickets of Richie Richardson and Roger Harper in the 45th over to tilt the match in Sri Lanka's favour.

West Indies finished on 228 for 9 from their 50 overs.

Richardson, who hit three fours and two sixes in his 67, admitted afterwards that his side had been outplayed in every department. "The better team won on the day," he said. "It is as simple as that."

The run-out of Brian Lara for 19 at the bowler's end was crucial to Sri Lanka's success. Andy Roberts, the West Indies man-ager, thought Jayasunya dropped the ball before removing the bails, but Lara was given out by the third umpire, Nigel Plews, after he had taken some time to

study television replays. Sri Lanka's innings was built around a fourth-wicket stand of 126 in 116 balls between Mahanama and Arjuna Ranatunga, who made 58. Mahanama's 101 from 152 balls was his first one-day century against West

A Gurusinha c Hesper b Skornons

P Summons c de Silva b Wik 8 Lara run ous 19 *R Richardson e Katuwithama b Jayasunya 67 R Holder not out 26

Richards suspension threat

Rugby Union

Dean Richards, England's No 8, will find out tonight whether he is to be the first player to be banned under the new tottingup procedure for yellow cards.

Richards, Leicester's cap-tain, will be defended by his club when he appears before the Leicestershire disciplinary committee at Welford Road after receiving yellow cards in successive matches last month. The regulations mean that a player warned twice is treated as having been sent off. Richards could be suspend-

ed and miss the Test against

treat him leniently. Tony Russ, Leicester's director of coaching, said: "We are

South Africa next month unless

contesting this case vigorously. First of all, he was not sent off in either match. We are all in unknown territory."

Alan Wells, Leicestershire's secretary, who will oversee proceedings, said: "This is a test case and we will be establishing a precedent, so we need to be very judicious in our verdict." The publicity before and certainly after Richards' case if he

is suspended will act as a severe

warning to thousands of play-

Richards' Leicester colleague he can persuade the panel to Martin Johnson has also been given a yellow card and cannot afford another caution until next April.

The system is in contrast to football, where a player who repeatedly misbehaves can get away with half-a-dozen threepoint bookings and still not be the subject of a disciplinary inquiry.

Richards was spotted by a touch judge using clumsy footwork at a ruck in the home match against Bath on 23 September and at Gloucester a week later another touchjudge alleged that he punched an opponent. Bristol fight the poachers,

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